



H. Rosa Lowe.

BENJAMIN B. TOWNE
TOPSFIELD, MASS.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2015

THE
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
OF THE
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XXII

1917

TOPSFIELD, MASS.
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.

1917

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW

Editor

THE PERKINS PRESS

Topsfield

MASS.

CONTENTS

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY, 1916	- - -	iv
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY FOR THE YEAR		
ENDING DEC. 31, 1916	- - - -	v
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR THE YEAR		
ENDING DEC. 31, 1916	- - - -	vii
ANNUAL REPORT ON BUILDING FUND	- -	viii
NEWSPAPER ITEMS RELATING TO TOPSFIELD, COPIED		
BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW (<i>Continued</i>)	-	I
COURT RECORDS RELATING TO TOPSFIELD (1640-1664)		
ABSTRACTED BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW	-	80
THE FUNERAL TRAIN OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN. REM-		
INISCENCES BY WM. H. H. GOULD	- -	129
TOPSFIELD VITAL STATISTICS, 1916	- -	133
CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS, 1916	- - -	136
BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED, 1916	- - -	136

OFFICERS
OF THE
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1916

PRESIDENT

CHARLES JOEL PEABODY

VICE-PRESIDENT

THOMAS EMERSON PROCTOR

SECRETARY AND TREASURER

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW

CURATOR

ALBERT M. DODGE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHARLES JOEL PEABODY, *ex-officio*

THOMAS EMERSON PROCTOR, *ex-officio*

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW, *ex-officio*

FRANKLIN BALCH

W. PITMAN GOULD

LEONE P. WELCH

ARTHUR H. WELLMAN

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE SECRETARY OF THE
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1916.

The present membership of the Society is 253. Three new members have been elected during the year, three have resigned, twelve have been dropped for non-payment of the annual dues and seven have died, viz:—Mrs. Caroline S. Gilman, Mrs. George L. Gould, Miss Mary Osgood Hodges, Mrs. Mary Frances Webster and Mrs. Hazen R. Wildes, all of Topsfield, Charles H. Leach of Wenham and Fred N. Day of Auburndale.

The publications of the year are the completion and distribution of Volumes XX and XXI. The printing of Volume XXII is also in progress, ninety-six pages already having been run off.

The Parson Capen house gains in reputation with the passing of each year. It has been illustrated several times in books and periodicals and during the fall the President and other officers of the Metropolitan Museum of Art came to Topsfield on a special trip from New York for the purpose of obtaining suggestions and ideas to be utilized in connection with the construction of the new wing of their museum now being erected to contain American furniture and household arts.

Mr. Sheahan, our custodian, returned safely in April after serving in France with the American Ambulance Corps, and during the summer while living in the Capen House has written much upon his experiences along the fighting line publishing the same in periodicals and in book form. He kindly consented to give a free lecture under the auspices of the Society at the Town Hall on the evening of May 19th. The hall was crowded to the doors.

The finances of the Society are in excellent shape. In addition to the regular dividends received on our United Shoe Machinery Co., stock, an extra cash dividend amounting to \$61.50 was received in July and also rights to subscribe to Thomas W. Plant stock, which were sold for \$61.66. The outstanding notes amounting to \$1,740, held by James L. Ward have been reduced to the extent of \$140. and consolidated into one note which is now held by Mrs. Frank W. Ward. The Capen House restored and furnished with $1\frac{1}{5}$ acres of land is held by the Society unencumbered and represents an expenditure of \$4,561.12. The market value of the Shoe Machinery stock is \$2,337. and the net after deducting the amount of the note \$1,600. leaves \$737. as a nucleus to build upon in the hope that some day it may reach an amount large enough to permit the erection of an exhibition hall in the rear of the Capen house.

Two regular meetings of the Society have been held, the free lecture already mentioned and on Sept. 8th a highly successful Field Meeting at the "Beacon Knoll" near the site of the old Perkins-Bickford saw mill. Arthur Lord, Esq., the President of the Pilgrim Society at Plymouth delivered an address. President Peabody spoke on Topsfield in the Revolution and the history of the "Beacon Knoll" and the Secretary gave some account of the locality. The meeting was held through the courteous invitation of Mr. Thomas Emerson Proctor and at its adjournment, his hospitality was enjoyed in the mill building recently erected on the old site. About eighty-five members and guests were present.

Respectfully Submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,

Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER

OF THE

Topsfield Historical Society

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1916

RECEIPTS

Jan. 1, 1916.	Balance cash on hand	\$48 58	
	Received from annual dues	158 00	
	" " sale of Hist. Colls.	30 50	
	" " bindings sold	42 90	
	" a gift from a Friend	5 00	\$284 98
			<hr/>

PAYMENTS

Printing, Vol. 20, Hist. Colls.	\$88 96	
Binding, " " "	29 63	
Printing, Vol. 21, " "	109 99	
Binding, " " "	37 11	
Freight and teaming on same	2 32	
Lantern and posters, Sheahan lecture	9 00	
Postals and printing same, etc.	7 85	\$284 86
		<hr/>

Balance cash on hand Jan. 1, 1917	<hr/>	12
	<hr/>	

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,

Treasurer.

Approved,

W. PITMAN GOULD,

Auditor.

BUILDING AND BUILDING FUND

Topsfield Historical Society

BUILDING AND BUILDING FUND

ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1916

RECEIPTS

Jan. 1, 1916.	Balance cash on hand	\$59 54	
	Dividends U. S. S. Mach. Co.	82 00	
	Extra dividend "	61 50	
	Stock div. T. G. Plant Co. sub.		
	rights (sold)	61 66	
	Rental, Capen House	70 00	\$334 70
			<hr/>

PAYMENTS

E. B. Woodbury, wood	\$2 00	
E. M. Dow, repair window, stock and labor on well curb and bath room	10 68	
Spence, Bell & Co., repair leaded glass	3 30	
James L. Ward, int. on notes	94 97	
" paid on acct. note	140 00	
Taxes	10 78	\$261 73
		<hr/>

Balance cash on hand Jan. 1, 1917 \$72 97

Jan. 1, 1916.	On hand in Building Fund 41 shares com. stock U. S. S. Mach. Co. market value 57	\$2,337 00
	Less outstanding loan, note	\$1,600 00
		<hr/>
	Present value of Fund	\$737 00
		<hr/>

The Parson Capen House and 1 1-5 acre land	\$2,100 00
Restoration and furnishings	2,461 12
	<hr/>
	\$4,561 12
	<hr/>

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,

Treasurer.

Approved,

W. PITMAN GOULD,

Auditor.

NEWSPAPER ITEMS RELATING TO TOPSFIELD.

COPIED FROM SALEM NEWSPAPERS

BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

(Continued from Vol. XX, page 48.)

THE DRAFT.

The Draft in the deficient sub-districts of the Fifth District, commenced at Lyceum Hall, in this city, on Friday morning, at nine o'clock, according to previous announcement, and was concluded at half past five. The drawing was conducted in the same manner as heretofore—officers Boynton, Shaw and Newcomb alternating in the work of drawing blindfolded. After drawing the requisite number, all the remaining names were drawn out in order to satisfy every one that there was no unfairness, and that every name liable, was in the box. We append by towns, a list of the names of the drafted men:—

TOPSFIELD

No. liable, 125; *No. drawn*, 18.—Daniel Hoyt, Aug. P. Ferguson, Alonzo Rea, Henry P. Kneeland, Ira W. Kneeland, Justin Allen, Nathan H. Roberts, John P. Perkins, Joseph B. Perkins, John W. Beal, Ithamar E. Pike, Moses B. Perkins, David H. Dwinell, Wm. Gould, Arthur M. Merriam, Thos. A. Perkins, Dudley Q. Perkins, Wm. M. Andrews.

Salem Gazette, May 17, 1864.

EXAMINATION OF DRAFTED MEN. The Board have been engaged at the Provost Marshal's office, since the late draft, in the examination of the men drafted. Below we give the results up to Saturday last:

Topsfield. Accepted—Daniel Hoyt, Augustus P. Ferguson, Alonso Rea, Henry P. Kneeland, Ira W. Kneeland, Nathan H. Roberts. One was discharged on examination. One is yet to report: Four supplementary credits have been allowed.

Salem Gazette, May 31, 1864.

SUPPLEMENTARY DRAFT IN THE FIFTH DISTRICT.—Nineteen more men were drafted in Salem on Monday by the Provost Marshal, to make up the deficiencies occurring through exemptions of those previously drawn. The following is the name of the man drafted from Topsfield:

Topsfield—Alfred Cummings.

Salem Gazette, June 14, 1864.

THE TREADWELL FARM IN TOPSFIELD.—A meeting of the Essex Agricultural Society was held at Plummer Hall, in this city, on Monday, to take into consideration the expediency of relinquishing the farm in Topsfield, bequeathed to the Society by the late Dr. J. G. Treadwell of Salem. The relinquishment had been very generally favored, a few weeks previously, at a meeting of the Trustees held at Lawrence. After a spirited and earnest discussion, the subject was "indefinitely postponed," which is of course equivalent to a continuance of the possession.

It seems that the Society has been in possession of this farm, which covers over 155 acres, for nearly six years, and has had two tenants who have conducted the required experiments, besides carrying on the farm for their own benefit. The Society has built a barn and made other improvements on the farm and the hospital corporation were ready to reimburse the outlay by allowing two-fifths of the proceeds to the Society. But the Society voted in effect not to accept the offer, but to continue its operation under a new tenant, who, it was thought, might be more successful than his predecessors.

We presume the fact is that it is more difficult for a Society to make a farm of this kind profitable than it would be for an individual owner, who was a good practical farmer. This experience was no doubt contemplated as among the possibilities, if not probabilities, by the donor, who, in his will, provided that, in certain contingencies, it should become the property of the Massachusetts General Hospital Corporation. This provision was made in the following terms:—

“After the decease of my mother, I give and devise my said farm in Topsfield to the Essex Agricultural Society, and their successors forever, for the promotion of the science of Agriculture, by the instituting and performance of experiments and such other means as may tend to the advancement of said science; and I direct that if said Society should refuse to accept said farm, or should appropriate it at any time to other purposes than those above stated, or if the whole or any part of said farm should be sold, given away, exchanged, or in manner parted with by said Society, the whole of said farm shall be forfeited by said Society; and in such event I give and devise said farm to the Massachusetts General Hospital Corporation, and their successors forever.”

Still, it is very natural, notwithstanding difficulties which the Society may experience in managing a farm as a Society, that there should be the feeling that a relinquishment might operate prejudicially to the farming interests of the country by making a public expression that would be construed as an admission that a farm, costing nothing, could not be made to pay its way. It was probably a repugnance to giving utterance to this idea that largely influenced members in their decision.

Salem Gazette, June 24, 1864.

TOPSFIELD, June 30, 1864.—The funeral services over the remains of the late Corp. Francis A. Hood, took place at Topsfield, in the Rev. Mr. McLoud's church, this forenoon, June 30. Corp. Hood was wounded at the terrible battle of Cold Harbor, June 3. He was first taken into the White House in Va. Afterward he was removed to the Lincoln

general hospital, in Washington, from whence he was carried to the Patterson Park Hospital, in Baltimore, where he died last Monday, from the effects of a wound by a minnie ball. Corp. Hood was among the first who enlisted in the 40th Regiment, Co. F, where he remained and served his country with honor to himself and satisfaction to all until he received his mortal wound.

The funeral to-day, was very largely attended by the relations, and numerous friends of the deceased, from Topsfield, Boxford, Ipswich, Georgetown, and Danvers; and every demonstration which was possible, of respect and honor to his memory was made. The flags were displayed at half mast, the bells were tolled and every individual countenance manifested great solemnity.

The hearse which bore his remains to the grave, was elegantly decorated with flags, and it was preceded by four fellow soldiers who each bore a beautiful bouquet, which they deposited at the four corners of his grave.

A very large procession of sorrowing relations and mourning friends followed the remains to their final abode. The church was beautifully and tastefully decorated by the ladies of Topsfield, with flowers and evergreens.

In the church the Rev. Messrs. McLoud, Pastor, and Coggin of Boxford, conducted the services. Following a solemn chant by the choir of the church, led by Jeremiah Balch, Esq., and the reading of select portions of Scripture by the pastor, Rev. Mr. McLoud and Rev. Mr. Coggin each pronounced an appropriate eulogy of the deceased. They spoke of the high esteem in which he was held by the community, previous to his going to the war, of the many good qualities of his private life, his genial spirit his warm affection, as a father and husband;—of the great loss the relatives and friends had sustained, and the unspeakable consolation they had, that their loss was his great and eternal gain. They also alluded to the noble principles of patriotism and self-sacrifice for his country, which sent him to the war. They spoke of the state of his mind in his last hours, the evidence they had that he died a christian as well as a patriot.

At the conclusion of the remarks of the clergymen, a hymn was sung by the choir, and the services at the church were closed by prayer by Rev. Mr. Coggin. The remains were then conveyed to their final resting place in the village cemetery, where what was mortal of the soldier, the patriot, and the christian, was viewed for the last time by a great number of friends present, after which at the grave, the Rev. Josiah Peabody, a returned missionary of the East, prayed, and the services were closed by singing the hymn, beginning with those beautiful lines

"Asleep in Jesus! blessed sleep!

From which none ever wakes to weep.

Asleep in Jesus! O how sweet,

To be for such a slumber meet!

Salem Gazette, July 2, 1864.

TOPSFIELD.—The decease of Dr. R. A. Merriam, on Sunday morning last, was very sudden. He had had severe attacks of heart disease, previously, but had not been confined to his house on Saturday, and appeared better than usual at the time he went to bed. About 12 o'clock he had an ill turn, from which he soon recovered, but about an hour afterward he had another attack which put an immediate end to his life. Dr. Merriam was one of the founders, and for many years an active member, of the Essex Agricultural Society, and was much respected as a man and citizen. His funeral will take place on Wednesday at 2 o'clock.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 15, 1864.

TOPSFIELD.—*Boston and Maine Railroad.*—The Boston & Maine Railroad are making a great and substantial improvement on the Newburyport road in Topsfield. They have built a new bridge over the Ipswich river raising it two feet above the level of the old bridge, and grading the road up for half a mile on each side. The piers for the old bridge, which obstructed the ice, causing on several occasions serious damage, have been removed, the new structure standing on abutments, by which all possibility of danger will in the future be avoided.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 22, 1864.

U. S. Income Tax.
*List of incomes for 1863, subject to Extra
 five per cent. U. S. Tax.*

TOPSFIELD.

Herrick, Charles	2,000
Pierce, Thomas W.	5.543
Pingree, Asa	2,000
Wildes, Moses	10.881

Salem Gazette, Jan. 10, 1865.

Janes's Topsfield, Danvers, South Danvers and
 Salem Express,

Leaves Topsfield at 8 o'clock A. M.

Returning, leaves Salem at 1 o'clock P. M.

Orders may be left at Post Office, Wm. E. Kimball's, and S. B. Perkins's, Topsfield; E. B. Waitt's, Danvers; F. Dane & Co's, South Danvers; and at Mr. Esty's and Mr. Abbott's, Market Square, Salem.

JOSEPH P. JANES,
 (Successor to Sam'l Janes.)

Salem Gazette, Feb. 14, 1865.

TOPSFIELD.—A town meeting was held in this town, on Tuesday, the 7th inst., for the purpose of raising money to procure the number of men required to fill the quota under the last call of the President. The town had five men to raise, three of whom have already been obtained. The town voted the sum of \$625 to be appropriated for the purpose.

The recruiting officier of this town, Mr. Jacob Foster, has spared no pains to raise the men wanted. We learn that some of the fearful ones are afraid we shall have to resort to a draft in town, in order to raise the balance, but we think there will be no fears in that respect for all future calls, for we understand that the population of Topsfield is fast increasing, several having been added to the number of the inhabitants of the town during the past few days; and we hope the aforesaid fearful ones will take courage from this fact, for in case the war should last eighteen or twenty years longer they will be old enough to do military duty.

A small owl was caught in the woods near the village a few days ago, by Mr. C. A. Kneeland, and sent to the Essex Institute at Salem. It was very small indeed, being but little larger than a common robin, not near so big as a dove, and very handsome. We understand that this is the smallest specimen of an owl ever seen in this vicinity.

We understand that three of the schools have closed,—the remaining one, the centre, to be continued some weeks longer. We learn from the chairman of the school committee, C. H. Holmes, Esq., that he is highly pleased with the success that has attended the schools thus far; but we hope in the future that the citizens of the town will look more to the interest of their children by appropriating more money for that purpose.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 14, 1865.

TOPSFIELD,—*Janes's Topsfield and Salem Express.*—We direct the attention of our reader to the advertisement of Janes's express, in this morning's Gazette, from which it will be seen that this old and popular express has changed hands. Mr. Samuel Janes, on account of ill health, disposes of his interest in same to his son Mr. Joseph P. Janes, under whose name the business will for the future be conducted. For honesty and prompt attention to business we cordially recommend the new proprietor to the public.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 17, 1865.

TOPSFIELD.—At a meeting of the enrolled militia, comprising the towns of Topsfield, Rowley and Boxford, and presided over by Andrew Gould, Esq., unanimous choice was made of Lieut. James Wilson as their Captain. Lieut. Wilson is a practical soldier.—At the breaking out of the rebellion he was a private in the Salem Mechanic Light Infantry, which was attached to the 5th Reg. Mass. Vols., serving out the time for which that regiment enlisted. He after that campaign enlisted in the 48th and was commissioned Lieutenant. In the battle at Donaldson, La., he was taken prisoner, July 13th, 1863, carried to Texas, suffering the privations and hardships of a rebel prison 12 months and 17 days, when he was exchanged at the mouth

of the Red River. He is well skilled in manual exercises, and as a disciplinarian will make a first rate Captain.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 24, 1865.

Will the Editors of the Gazette and Mercury please publish the enclosed relation of the doings at a Fair in Topsfield, on Friday?—thus obliging the ladies, and their many subscribers.

CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY

Topsfield, March 10, 1865.

To the Editors of the Salem Gazette:—

Last week, our Ladies, to repair
Our church and fixtures, held a *Fair*;
The most successful e'er we had,
Although the weather was so bad.
By printed placard we were told
Our younger Ladies here, would hold
A Festival on Thursday night,
At Union Hall, by candle light;
But if on Thursday night it rain
They'd "do as people do in Spain,"
Why, "let it rain" and would receive
Their company on Friday eve.
Still if on Friday eve it snow,
They'd hold it Friday, snow or blow;—
And so on Friday night they met,
Through all the snow, slush, mud, and wet,
To carry out through festive glee
This object of their charity.
And one will see by their design,
We "had and ate our cake," in fine,
Or by a figure just allied,
Had "our bread buttered on each side."
I have not time, to tell, nor space,
The festive wonders of the place;
But I will give a brief survey
In my plain common off-hand way!—
For, being like a Pharos, tall,
I could with ease survey them all.

Through folding doors one met a crowd
Of some five hundred, as allowed,
And soon became immersed among
People of every kind, and tongue.
And if gab gift is Yankee boast,
Of this same gift they made the most.
The object, first, that met my eye
Was our own banner raised on high;
It's "Temple" colors, red, white, blue,
Expressing our redemption true;
And near the Presidential chair,
Placed for the Lady of the Fair,
And just before the orchestra,
Where our famed *Tinney* band would play;
And then the rostrum, or the stage,
Preoccupied by speaker sage,
While all around the Hall were seen
Figures arrayed "in living green,"
With mottoes, and devices rare,
Arranged with nicest taste and care.
The tables groaned, alone, for weight
Of candy, kickshaw, fruit, and cake!
While all, who wished sat down and fed
On pumpkin pie, pork, beans and bread.
I scarcely need to name, perhaps,
The legionary rattle-traps,
The dice and the stand roulettes,
Where children made their trifling bets;
The *mastadonic* ring plum cake,
For which was booked each gamester's stake;—
Nor of the throng that marched around
With "harp and pipe and viol's sound,"
While boys and girls with Stentor lung
The "Glory Hallelujah" sung.
In fact we staid till near midnight,
And "neath the moon's unclouded light"
We all went home, belle, beau and maid,
And bachelor and matron staid.
In the still night, our sportive glee
Reechoing right merrily.

Salem Gazette, March 21, 1865.

TOPSFIELD.—The funeral of John W. Bradstreet, 4th Mass. Battery, and Eugene H. Todd, 3d Cavalry, whose bodies were brought from New Orleans, was attended on Friday last.

At the election of officers for district No. 127, including the towns of Topsfield, Boxford and Rowley, Corp. George B. Blodgett of Rowley was elected First Lieutenant and Sergt. John H. Towne of Topsfield was elected Second Lieutenant.

Salem Gazette, March 28, 1865.

TOPSFIELD.—*Celebration of the Fourth.*—It is the intention of the citizens of Topsfield to have a grand celebration on the coming fourth. At a meeting held in Union Hall, on Monday evening, June 5, C. H. Holmes, Chairman, and John Bailey, Secretary, the following named gentlemen were chosen a committee of arrangements to make the necessary preparations for the event, which we presume will be on a more grand scale than has been before for a number of years: Charles H. Holmes, Jacob Foster, Benj. Balch, Moses B. Perkins, Geo. Cleaveland, Thomas K. Leach, David P. Perkins.

We understand that it is the intention to have an oration, public dinner, procession, &c. &c., concluding with fire works on the common in the evening. As the committee is composed of some of our leading and most enterprising citizens, a good time may be anticipated. Probably all the soldiers, or most of them, will be at home on that day, and we should certainly give ours a reception worthy of the occasion and of the great and glorious event.

Salem Gazette, June 9, 1865.

TOPSFIELD.—We regret to learn of a painful and fatal accident which occurred in this town on Thursday, by which Mr. Joseph Lovett, clerk and assistant in the store of B. P. Adams, Esq., came to his death. The particulars, so far as we are able to ascertain them, are as follows:

Mr. Adams, in company with Mr. Lovett, was removing some goods from the freight-house of the Newburyport Railroad Station, to his store on the main street, not far distant. After loading the wagon with two boxes of sugar

the horse, as usual, proceeded to walk away with the load in the direction of the store. Mr. Lovett jumped upon the footboard of the wagon, and, while in the act of taking the reins which lay upon the horse, he missed his footing and fell between the shafts, and behind the horse, who, becoming frightened, started upon a run. Mr. Adams who was seated upon one of the boxes, seeing the perilous condition of Mr. Lovett, came forward instantly to save him, and did succeed in getting hold of one of his hands, and partly drawing him up on wagon. By this time the horse was going at great speed, and, on attempting to turn from Grove into Main street, at the crossing, the wagon was overturned, throwing Mr. Lovett upon the ground and a heavy box of sugar across his breast. Mr. Adams retained his hold upon Mr. Lovett till the wagon was in the process of turning over, when of course he was obliged to release his hold and look out for his own life. Mr. Lovett was so badly injured that he expired at about one o'clock the same day. Mr. Adams escaped with some slight bruises.

Mr. Lovett, who was fifty-five years of age, and a native of Newburyport, was well known in Topsfield as a most upright and exemplary citizen, and his death, under these painful circumstances, imparts a shock to the community where he was universally respected, and to all, in fact, who knew him. He leaves a wife and one son, who had been a member of the 40th Regiment, and who, after faithful service and much suffering in the country's cause, had just returned home to cheer, once more, the home of the parents whom he loved.

Salem Gazette, June 20, 1865.

OBITUARY.

Died in Topsfield, at about noon, on the 26th of June, Sarah Augusta Blaisdell, aged 13 yrs. 3 mos. and 9 dys. Seldom, if ever, has the departure of a youth so deeply affected this community. Though of a tender age, she evinced much maturity of character, especially in her last hours. Among her dying expressions were many which, on account of their calmness, affection and christian trust, were truly touching. She, no doubt, became prepared for

death during her painful illness of three weeks. Her messages, a day or two before she died, to the Sunday School with which she was connected, and her tender words of love spoken to friends present, and sent to friends absent, including her pastor, make her memory precious. Her directions concerning her burial were delivered with composure, and her request to have chiselled on her monument a hand pointing upward beautifully exhibited her trust in the future. Having remarked that she had no more to say, she peacefully passed, as we all believe, to the better world.

For unavoidable reasons, the funeral could not be postponed beyond the 27th. A congregation much larger than the usual Sunday audience assembled at 4 o'clock P. M. in the Methodist Church. The exercises consisted of a Voluntary, Reading of the Scriptures, a Hymn, an Address, and Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Morriss which was very able and impressive. A simple description of her last moments produced impressions which it is hoped may never be effaced. At the grave in the light of the setting sun, a hymn was sung, and the burial service read. The appearance of the remains was beautiful in the calmness that rested over them, as many of the great number that looked on them remarked. And all could adopt the language quoted by the preacher in his conclusion:

"She is not dead the child of our affection,
But gone unto that school,
Where she no longer needs our poor protection,
And Christ himself doth rule."

Salem Gazette, June 30, 1865.

TOPSFIELD.—On Saturday, Oct. 14, Mr. Thomas Pierce, the proprietor of the old Crowninshield farm, entertained Stephens, late Vice President of the rebel Confederacy, and another individual, who have just been released from Fort Warren. They remained over the Sunday, and went away on Monday morning.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 20, 1865.

TOPSFIELD.—On Tuesday night last, Mr. Edward Millett who is in the employ of Mr. Munday, the butcher, went to

bed leaving \$150 in his clothing, which he placed under his head while he slept. On putting on his clothes in the morning, he found the money gone, although there were no signs of any person having entered his house or chamber. \$107 of the money belonged to Mr. Munday; the remainder was his own.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 10, 1865.

A DARING HIGHWAY ROBBERY took place on Monday evening, near Topsfield. At about six o'clock in the afternoon, Mr. Wentworth of the Salem and Topsfield express, being about two miles from the latter town, on his return from Salem, was attacked by two men, who stopped his horse, and with a pistol presented at his head by one of them, demanded his money. Finding resistance hopeless, he gave up what he had, amounting to \$260, and was permitted to proceed. A man was arrested yesterday, on suspicion of being one of the robbers, but his guilt is believed to be at least doubtful.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 10, 1865.

TOPSFIELD.—The case of Thomas Pierce, Esq., of Topsfield, arising out of and involving the history of the great Floyd fraudulent acceptances, will come up this week in the United States Court of Claims. Gen. Caleb Cushing is counsel in the case.—*Newburyport Herald.*

Salem Gazette, Dec. 19, 1865.

Wentworth's Topsfield, Danvers, So. Danvers and
Salem Express,

Leaves Topsfield at 8 o'clock A. M.

Returning, leaves Salem at 1 o'clock, P. M.

Orders may be left at Post Office, Wm. E. Kimball's and S. B. Perkins's, Topsfield; E. B. Waitt's, Danvers; F. Dane & Co.'s, South Danvers; and at Mr. Esty's and Mr. Abbott's, Market Square, Salem.

Being connected with the Railroad Expresses at Salem, we are enabled to forward orders with the utmost despatch to all accessible points in the United States and British Provinces.

We also connect with the Georgetown and Haverhill Expresses at Topsfield daily.

We pay strict and personal attention to the collection and paying of notes and bills, and all matters carefully attended to.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 19, 1865.

TOPSFIELD, January, 4th.—A festival was held last evening, at our Union hall, under auspices of "The Young Ladies' Society," for the laudable purpose of inaugurating a Lyceum course of lectures. The Hall was tastefully decorated with emblems and devices, the tables provoked the connoisseur and epicure by the temptingly arranged bouquets, cakes and kickshaws, over all of which floated the protecting banner of the Union. The fete was a decided success and augurs well of our people and their kind neighbors, who always come to the rescue in the expression of head and heart. An "off hand" was prepared by Mr. Holmes, of which the following is an extract:

Neighbors and friends assembled here,
 I wish you all a happy year;
 And should I cast your horoscope
 As to comprise the amplest hope,
 That horoscope I sure would cast
 On the year's glories we've just past:—
 For never since that blessed morn,
 The epoch of our nation's dawn,
 When first these "stars together sung"
 While through all space the anthem rung
 Cheered by these starry morning lights
 "All men are free with equal rights,"
 No ne'er till now, *unshackled*, free,
 Have we enjoyed such liberty
 First glory give to God, the cause
 Of our success in these our wars;
 Then to our gallant volunteers;
 Then to our fair, the noble dears;
 To every kind and class of men.
 The helping hero citizen,
 Ring out the anthem we are free
 From lake to gulf, from sea to sea!

Salem Gazette, Jan. 9, 1866.

TOPSFIELD.

Correspondence of the Salem Gazette.

Messrs. Editors.—The visitor to Topsfield meets with a surprise. After overcoming the irregularities of the highway leading from Danvers, suddenly, almost at our feet, embosomed among the surrounding hills, the centre village of Topsfield burst upon our view. We reined in our prancing steed, that we might with greater safety descend the appalling steep hill before us, and in the meanwhile, leisurely survey the surrounding, picturesque scene. The neat little village spread before us with the buildings of every shade and hue arranged according to taste of their different owners, presented a pleasing appearance; while beyond, as far as the eye could reach, there was one continual forest, with here and there a rugged hill looming up in bold relief, against a background of wilderness. At the foot of the hill which we were now descending, the Ipswich river flowed silently on towards the great deep, as hundreds of years ago, when known as the Agawam, it flowed through the forest, when the Indians paddled their canoes o'er its waters, or uttered their warwhoops upon its banks.

With the impetus now obtained, we soon reached the principal village of Topsfield, or as it was called by the aborigines, "Shenewemedy." The dwellings appeared neat and clean, while some in their structure almost rivaled the princely architecture of our cities. Near the centre of the village we crossed the Danvers and Georgetown railroad, now leased for a term of years to the Boston and Maine Railroad Company. This railroad has somewhat increased the business of Topsfield, and bestowed on it all the blessings which railroads generally do.

There are two stores in Topsfield, which are universally considered, as "Variety Stores;" and a purchaser from the city might get so confounded at the multiplicity of various articles, as to be hardly able to tell, before he had arranged his thoughts, whether he wished to buy a yard of molasses, or a yard of broadcloth.

The business of Topsfield seems to be equally divided, between the shoe-makers and the butchers. There are

however two blacksmiths, one of whom has invoked the aid of steam, to assist him in fashioning the iron and steel.

To the right of Main Street, on a small eminence, there stands what was once "Topsfield Academy," but now is but a monument to its former glory. Perhaps this does not speak well for the inhabitants, and perhaps it does: I leave it entirely to the judgment of the reader.

A little farther on we came to an open space, called the "Common," in the centre of which stands a flagstaff, which speaks eloquently, though silently, for the loyalty of the people. On the borders of the common are situated a school-house, and two churches, one a Congregationalist, and the other a Methodist. The pastor of the Congregational society, has been settled over the parish for some considerable number of years, and seems likely to grow old in the service of his Master. The Methodist clergyman is a young man, but he preaches with a cogency of reasoning power, and unction, surprising to one, who has been accustomed to the monotonous lifelessness, of even more experienced ministers. In the school house mentioned and indeed in all the other school houses of the town, the teachers are women. Here is one victory for the advocates of women's rights; another will be gained when the women are paid as much as the men whom they displace; and still another will be gained, when the passage of Scripture, Gen. 3, 16, is changed thus: "And thy desire shall be to thy" wife "and" she "shall rule over thee," and shall be made to refer to Adam, rather than Eve.

Taking what is called the Ipswich road, we passed on about a mile, when we came to a small hamlet, which bears the name of "Hardscrabble." Whether this title was given in imitation of some more noted place, or on account of it's natural qualities, it would be difficult to determine; but probably the latter. The place possesses a grist-mill, and with the farmers and shoe-makers, seems to be in a thriving condition.

On leaving "Hardscrabble," or "Springville," as it is called by the more genteel portion of humanity, we passed on nearly another mile, and came to one more small village, which has the much grander name of "The City, Topsfield

City." I am glad that I am able at last to say, I have been in a city where I was not troubled with din and confusion. There everything seemed quiet; from the man in his parlor, to the mouse in the cellar. This place too is also blessed with a grist-mill, which is situated upon a stream called Howlett brook, from a man by the name of Howlett, who formerly owned the mill and its surroundings. The entire city with its suburbs actually contains, as I learned, seven distinct dwellings, a few barns and out-buildings, and a school house. How vast its extent! Who can say it does not deserve the charter?

This being nearly the eastern extremity of Topsfield, we now had to retrace our steps to the central village of the town, and prepare for our return home.

There are some fine views to be obtained in Topsfield, from some of the numerous hills within its precincts. On one hill east of the common, called Great Hill, the eye can survey the surrounding country for many miles, and far away to the extremity of Cape Ann, the mighty Atlantic can be seen, with the vessels passing hither and thither upon its bosom; while the intervening country presents a strange diversity of landscape, perhaps soon to feel the biting winds and drifting snows of mid-winter.

In another part of the town we were told there was an abandoned copper mine, where probably some persons more visionary than wise, had indulged hopes of future riches, but found those hopes fallacious. We did not go to see the mine; for observing the sun sinking to the horizon, we started homeward, well pleased with our winter excursion, and wishing the inhabitants in this A.D. 1866, all the blessings derived from diligence and honesty.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 2, 1866.

LINEBROOK, Jan. 29.—*Messrs. Editors:*—Permit me to offer a suggestion concerning the proposed Cape Ann Railway.

The plan set forth in one of your recent issues, is we think, susceptible of some improvement, especially in that part of it connecting Manning's Mills with the Newburyport and Danvers Railroad.

The chief object of the road beyond the Eastern at Ipswich or Hamilton, must be to accommodate those residing on the line of the road, and to open a shorter and more commodious means of communication between the Cape and the North by way of Lawrence. That this statement is true is obvious from the following: The Eastern would reduce the fare of all passengers coming from this road, so as to compete with the Danvers, or Boston & Maine; and the Eastern, too, would be a shorter route South or East; and there would be a great saving in time. Here we have the rule: passengers would be taken off at Ipswich or Hamilton, and freight would follow the owner. In case the Eastern leased the proposed road, as is probable, the rule would certainly be as stated.

Now the question that remains, is to connect the Cape with the great North, *via* Manning's Mill, for its accommodation. The absolutely shortest route to accomplish this is not the best. Should the proposed road connect the Mill and the N. & D. R. R. at Wenham Causeway, no place in this vicinity would be accommodated except the Mill. So we would propose, what would be just as well for the mill, better for the Cape, and very much better for us, to make the connection at some point on the N. & D. R. R. near Pritchard's Pond. Starting there, running on the south of the pond, crossing the turnpike road and having a depot about a mile south of Linebrook meeting house we should get a road only about half a mile longer; which objection, if you are pleased to call it, is met by saying, that the road will accommodate a much larger section. Passing from the mill to the Causeway, the road would traverse those gloomy meadows, outside of the villages, affording no advantage to the people except at the Mill; whereas commencing at Pritchard's Pond, with a depot as we suggested, the two eastern villages in Topsfield, the western village in Rowley and Linebrook, these four villages would be very much benefited.

Whether the proposed road run near Ipswich or Hamilton, we presume those people ought to decide, but we venture the opinion, formed by what we know of the

traffic of this section and Ipswich with Essex, that it would be much better for the pecuniary interests of the road to embrace Ipswich as closely as possible.

If the Causeway and Hamilton are connected by way of the mill as proposed, the road at the mill will make an angle of about sixty degrees. Thus obliging the Cape (for those in this vicinity uninterested would not be eager to subscribe to the stock) to pay twice as much as they would have to pay if the road proceeded directly to the Causeway—too many dollars to secure a mill.

The road we propose would naturally pass by the mill, it would cost but a trifle more comparatively; it would be as easy of construction and doubtless a great number of shares would be secured among our people.

We offer these suggestions with all due deference to any opinion that has been expressed. We hope the road will find its way through. We heartily congratulate the people of the Cape, on account of their spirit of enterprise. We subscribe ourself,

Very respectfully yours, X.
Salem Gazette, Feb. 6, 1866.

TOPSFIELD.—*A good haul.* Three of our citizens, Messrs. Casey, Whipple and Welch, took over fifty pounds of pickerel from Hood's Pond in two hours, one day this week.

Fire.—On Thursday afternoon, the house of Mr. John Potter was discovered to be on fire by Mr. T. K. Leach, who immediately called Mr. P., and the flames were extinguished before the fire had made much headway. It was probably ignited by a spark from the steam saw mill of Mr. Leach.

Officers of She-ne-we-me-dy Lodge, No. 73, I.O. of G.T.—W.C.T., Franklin G. Morris; W.V.T., Phœbe Monday; W.S., E. Perkins Averill; W.F.S., Wm. Perkins; W.T., Geo. H. Waterhouse; W.C., J. Holroid Dodge; W.M., Eugene Perley; W.D.M., Dora T. Sweeney; W.I.G., Sarah J. T. Floyd; W.O.G., E. Otis Gould; W.R.S., Georgie A. Waterhouse; W.L.S., Mary Balch; P.W.C.T., Chas. J. P. Floyd.

Juno.
Salem Gazette, Feb. 27, 1866.

Lieut. John H. Towne, formerly of Topsfield, has been elected First Lieut. in the Rhode Island State Militia.

Salem Gazette, May 15, 1866.

TOPSFIELD.—*Fire in the Woods.*—On Saturday last a fire was discovered in the woods, about a mile northwest of our village, on land owned by Moses Wildes and C. H. Holmes, which, owing to the high wind, spread with great rapidity and in a very short time ran over about 60 acres. Mr. Wildes's land was covered by a young growth of hard wood which is entirely ruined, and his loss is very heavy. Mr. Holmes's land was principally an old pasture, which the fire will benefit somewhat, although he lost some good standing wood, and a few cords of dry hard wood which was piled on the lot. The origin of the fire is unknown, but it was probably caused by some person carelessly dropping a lighted match.

Salem Gazette, May 15, 1866.

Good Templars.—The following named persons have been elected and installed officers of She-ne-we-me-dy Lodge, No. 73, I.O. of G.T., for the present quarter:—

Geo. E. Chapman, W.C.T.; Phœbe Munday, W.V.T.; Austin Archer, W.S.; Minerva Chapman, W.A.S.; Georgie A. Waterhouse, W.F.S.; Huldah Sweeney, W.T.; Abbie R. Peabody, W.C.; John H. Dodge, W.M.; Katie Magar, W.D.M.; Addie Pike, W.I.G.; John Fiske, W.O.G.; Sarah R. Towne, W.R.S.; Marietta Heath, W.L.S.; Franklin G. Morris, P.W.C.T.

Salem Gazette, May 15, 1866.

FIRE ON TOPSFIELD.—On Sunday afternoon last a one and a half story house in the north part of the town near the Ipswich line, owned by Mr. Humphrey Perley, and occupied by Miss Julia Bixby, took fire and was totally consumed. The fire is supposed to have been caused by sparks from the chimney, which caught on the roof. There being no engine in the town, and the wind blowing quite fresh, it was found impossible to save the building, but the household effects were mostly saved. We understand there was an insurance on the property, but at

which office or what amount we were unable to ascertain.
—*Reg.*

Salem Gazette, May 18, 1866.

THE OLD TOPSFIELD SCHOOL HOUSE.

Correspondence of the Salem Gazette.

TOPSFIELD, June 5.

A Fair took place in our town, Election eve, under peculiar circumstances. It seems that the insufficiency of village school house had been assailed by pulpit, bar, medical and other faculties, but as "great bodies move slow," the scholars becoming impatient at the slowness of the town, took the matter into their own hands, projecting this scheme for the accomplishment of their purpose. The scholars, under the conduct of Mr. Holmes, our Superintendent, enacted their part gloriously. But why speak of the theatrical exhibition, speeches, temptingly arranged tables, music and general joyousness, as we are always up to the mark in such matters, in Topsfield. The exposition was delivered by Miss Laura Lake, who was introduced as the genuine "Lady of the Lake," and who poetized thus:

THE ELECTION LAY.

On this Election day,
Men spend in pastime, play,
Our sires once met, they say,
To well prepare our laws;—
So we their children meet
With thankful hearts, and greet
To well propose, and treat
Our rightful, sacred cause.

Then friends, pray lend your ear,
While we your children dear,
With childish hope and fear,
Solicit here your aid;
And when you've heard the why,
And how the wherefore lie.
Your aid you'll not deny,
When all our facts are weighed.

We represent the schools,
 Without which men were tools,
 And more, perhaps, were fools,
 The dolt, the slave, the base ;
 And here we bring to view
 Our purposed school-house, too,
 With facts both strong and true,
 Which comprehends our case.

Then, first, the present site
 And building, ne'er were right,
 And unsymmetric, quite.—
 Look for yourselves we say ;
 Of building we don't know,
 But feel it to be so,
 As back and forth we go,
 We children, day by day.

The out, the insides beat,
 With five packed in one seat,
 Limbs, bodies cramped and feet,
 Our state is very sad ;
 With iceland frigid here.
 Timbuctoo torrid there—
 No equal heat we share ;
 'Tis too bad, 'tis too bad !

The house you cannot mend,
 It shakes from end to end ;
 The floors and timbers bend,—
 Beneath our daily tread ;
 Then build a school-house good,
 Symmetric when 'tis viewed.
 The course will ne'er be rued,
 We say as we have said.

Down with the old thing, down,
 Which has a nuisance grown,
 And as a nuisance known
 And we'll go bravely on ;
 If this you will not do

We girls will put it through,
We'll build a house for you,
You may depend upon.

Salem Gazette, June 12, 1866.

TOPSFIELD.—On Monday evening last the following named persons were installed Officers of Shenewemedy Lodge No. 73 I. O. of G. T., for the present quarter:—William Perkins, W.C.T.; Georgianna Waterhouse, W.V.T. Erastus K. Clark, W. S.; Mary Balch, W.F.S.; John H. Dodge, W.T.; Addie Pike, W.C.; William W. Waterhouse, W. M.; Martha J. Clark, W.I.G.; George Smith, W.O.G.; Josephine A. Towne, W.A.S.; Martha E. Phippen, W.D.M. Marietta Heath, W.R.S.; Mary J. Dodge, W.L.S.; George E. Chapman, P.W.C.T.

The lodge is now for the first time ready to go to work, having during its last quarter passed through many trying scenes, and having paid off a very heavy debt. It now stands clear of all incumbrances with funds in the Treasury to work with if needed. We believe that the lodge has done some good since its organization, although opposed by its enemies, and rather hindered in its progress by faint hearted friends who could not believe that it could live through so many trials and drawbacks, although they really wished it might. But with its new officers, who have all been tried through evil as well as good report, and always been found staunch and true friends of the cause, we believe it will see a very prosperous term during the present quarter, and its efforts to promote temperance and happiness will be finally crowned with abundant success.

JUNO.

Salem Gazette, August 17, 1866.

TOPSFIELD.—[Correspondance of the Salem Gazette.] Nov. 8, 1860.—This is one of the pleasantest towns in the county of Essex, and the village, with its two modest spires, always presents a picturesque appearance slumbering on the hill-enclosed plain. There are two or three shoe-manufactories in this place, the principal being that of Mr. Chas. Herrick. The manufactory opposite, formerly owned by Dea. John Wright, and now conducted by

Messrs. Bailey, Saunders & Co., employs a considerable number of machine stitchers. Butchering was always a standard kind of a business in this town, and the past season Mr. Ariel H. Gould has erected a large building, in connection with his butchering establishment, for his numerous wagons and other fixtures. Mr. Gould does a large business, giving employment to probably a score of persons.

Within a few years a new street has been laid out by the side of the railroad track, which saves some little amount of travel to those going from Boxford in the direction of Danvers and Salem. On this road several buildings have already sprung up and one or two are now being established. Mr. Charles Lake is building a handsome house and barn on one of the high hills of Topsfield. It occupies so commanding a position, that, from various directions, it can be seen at a distance of several miles.

Rev. Mr. McCloud has nearly completed a faithful ministry of a quarter of a century here, and the anniversary will no doubt be observed in an interesting and becoming manner.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 13, 1866.

The following named persons have been installed as officers of Shenewemedy Lodge, No. 73, I.O. of G.T. for the present quarter:

Erastus K. Clark, W.C.T.; Sarah R. Phillips, W.V.T; Addie Pike, W.S.; Lorin P. Rust, W.F.S.; Mary Nichols, W.T; John H. Dodge, W.C; David Smith, W.M; George Smith, W.O.G; Mary J. Dodge, W.I.G; Mary Balch, W. A.S; Elizabeth Smith, W.D.M; Caroline Pray, W.R.S; Minerva Chapman, W.L.S; Wm. Perkins, P.W.C.T.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 13, 1866.

TOPSFIELD.—The Young Ladies' Benevolent Society, connected with the Orthodox Congregational Church in this town, contemplate having a course of popular lectures, which will commence in the course of a few weeks. Several able lecturers have already been engaged, including Edwin P. Whipple, Esq., Hon. Thomas Russell, and Rev. J. M. Manning of Boston, and Rev. Dr. Briggs, of Salem;

and we have no doubt the series will prove not only instructive, but contribute greatly to the enjoyment of the good people of this town and neighborhood. The association under whose auspices this course is given, has manifested its enterprising spirit on more than one occasion and the public will no doubt be ready to extend its encouragement to the literary entertainment now in store.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the ministry of Rev. Mr. McCloud has been arranged for Tuesday evening of this week, with music by Gilmore's band, &c.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 12, 1866.

ANNIVERSARY IN TOPSFIELD.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the settlement of Mr. McCloud, as pastor of the Congregational Society in this town, was observed on Wednesday evening, Dec. 12, in a manner highly complimentary to both pastor and people. Had there been no observance of the occasion in this manner, the fact of Mr. McCloud's remaining so long with this people in these days of "itching ears" and "loud calls" tells well for both minister and people. Following the example of Boxford, Rowley, and Ipswich, in the observance of this rare event, a few of the older members of the Society, aided by a few of the younger ones, as assistants in the outside labors, conferred together on the subject and concluded to have a quiet and modest gathering of our own present inhabitants and invite those of the native born citizens who have adopted other places as their homes, to join in the festivities of the happy occasion. And here let me say that few towns have sent out more literary and professional men than this; consequently the assembly was graced by a much larger and more talented gathering than was at first expected.

A meeting was at first held at the meeting house, at 6 P. M., and at that early hour every seat was occupied. The voluntary by the organist, Miss Kimball, was performed in her best style, followed by an anthem by the choir,— "Glory be to God on high," &c. Prayer by Dr. Taylor, of Marlboro, Conn., formerly the minister at Wenham. Then a hymn, composed by Mrs. Joel R. Peabody of

Topsfield, for the occasion; after which Nehemiah Cleaveland, Esq., addressed the pastor in some very appropriate and happy remarks, in which he alluded to ministrations of former pastors running back more than two hundred years, in the history of this society, varying in the tenure of their pastoral office from two to twenty or thirty years, —not omitting to leave an impression that the present is in no way inferior to former incumbents of the sacred office of pastor; and at the same time modestly hinting that the “surplice” and “liturgy” with some of the formulas of another church would very much add to his gifts and graces as teacher and pastor of this people. Mr. Cleaveland playfully related the circumstances under which he became infatuated with the “silk gown,” when his mind was young and plastic, attending school at the “old red school house,” and the impression being so deeply fixed in his “young and tender mind,” and having “grown with his growth and strengthened with his strength” he could not suppress the hint on this occasion, forgetting for a moment that he was addressing a congregationalist minister and people; but with his quick perception and happy ability to make all honorable amends, Mr. Cleaveland then and there presented the pastor a purse containing 583 dollars, which was contributed by friends; thus making a full atonement for all he had said about the “silk gown,” and “brought down the house” with a hearty response without making a single convert to “*the church.*” The influence of twenty-five years of sound doctrinal preaching with congregational polity cannot be rubbed out in one evening, though “the charmer charm ever so wisely.”

After Mr. Cleaveland, Mr. McLoud responded in a few remarks of an appropriate nature, stating that as he had recapitulated briefly the history of the past 25 years in two sermons the preceeding Sabbath, he would give way to others.

Rev. Mr. Coggin, of Boxford, then addressed the audience in very appropriate congratulations to minister and people for the unity and happiness which has existed between them during the quarter of a century in which they have been placed in so close and intimate connection.

The hour of 8 having arrived, after some most excellent music by the celebrated Gilmore band, the company retired to Union Hall, which the young ladies had prepared in a fitting style, spreading tables and loading them with excellent refreshments. I, (being one of those on the "back seat,") did not hesitate in coming to the conclusion that that part of the programme had been confided to the right "committee."

The next exercise was the appointment to the chair of the Hon. Asahel Huntington of Salem, one of the "sons of Topsfield," and whose father for many years was pastor of this people. In this capacity he was at home and graced the occasion in a manner that gave a playful and happy turn to the exercises of the hall. He recapitulated instances which occurred here in the days of his boyhood, the manner in which he learned to sing, sixty years since, (he will pardon this newspaper exposure as he is generally taken for a young man) how he sang in the choir, his wonderful proficiency in the art of music, and the high stand to which he attained in this line of things when he was a boy and his father the minister. After "bringing down the house" in this recital, he put on the dignities due to his office, and introduced to the audience several reverend gentlemen from neighboring towns, whose remarks were listened to with deep and profitable interest. Among the speakers I remember the names of Dr. Fitz, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Coggin, Mr. Noyes, Mr. French, Prof. Sewall, Mr. Wildes, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Tenney.

To attempt to give even a "birds eye" account of the very excellent sayings that were uttered would take too much space in your paper. As you have published accounts of this kind of gatherings, let it suffice that I tell you that they are all pretty much alike, only this in Topsfield was a little more so, in the way of singing—presenting of the purse—spreading of the tables—filling the chair—speaking by the ministers—music by the band, and amount of the money. While I would not draw comparisons in the speakers as to their elegance of style, and diction, I may be allowed to say I was especially attracted by the remarks of Mr. Wildes, who fills the office of Rec-

tor at Grace Church in Salem. "Though not himself a son of Topsfield, yet being a son of a son," we were all glad to see and hear him. Having thrown off the "mantle" of his Puritanic ancestors and become a "churchman" he readily fell in with the spirit of Mr. Cleaveland's remarks and expressed the belief that the "Surplice and Liturgy" are not without their uses even in these days of progress. To be conservative is not necessarily to be a foe to a true progress. But I apprehend that the people of Topsfield know something of these tendencies, having learned of their workings through Dr. Pusey, and other Divines of England. After spending the two hours allotted at the hall, the chair announced that the older portion of the audience would retire and that "young America" might "stay till morning" and enjoy the music by the band to their heart's content, which I doubt not they did. Thus ended one of the most happy events in the history of Topsfield, all feeling happy and better, and returning many thanks to all who spoke or in any way helped on the occasion.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 18, 1866.

Commemoration in Topsfield.

On Wednesday evening, Dec. 12, the Congregational Society in this old town, celebrated by appreciate observance, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Rev. Anson McLoud's ordination. The exercises began in the meeting-house soon after six P. M. with a voluntary from a detachment of Gilmore's celebrated band. This was followed by a grand chorus, executed by a full choir under the leadership of Mr. Humphrey Balch. The Rev. Mr. F. V. Tenney of Manchester made a short and appropriate prayer.

The following hymn, from the pen of Mrs. S. D. Peabody of Topsfield, was sung by the choir,

How fondly Memory traces back,
How clearly re-appears
The varied scene along the track
Of five and twenty years.

And it is well we pause today
 For retrospective view;
 Then onward still our pleasant way,
 With strength renewed, pursue.

And, how distinctly through the past,
 Our Sabbaths bright appear;
 Signals that checked us when too fast,
 Or warned of danger near.

Our Pastor through them all has preached,
 And prayed, and labored on.
 And many hearts we trust has reached,
 And many souls has won.

But while with gratitude we dwell
 Upon the precious past,
 The depths of shadow who can tell
 O'er all its brightness cast.

How have our households been bereft
 Of those they hold most dear;
 How many seats are vacant left
 By those who worshipped here.

But for all such as here attain
 The heights they, faithful, trod,
 To die, is but to live again,
 For here they walked with God.

And O, may we,—life's journey o'er,
 In mansions of the blest,
 With all the loved ones gone before,
 Pastor and people rest.

Mr. Nehemiah Cleaveland, chairman of the Committee of arrangements addressed the reverend pastor, as follows:

Mr. McLoud:—The Committee of Arrangements for this meeting have put it on me to say a few words for them and their constituents—those parishioners of yours, who unite in the demonstration. I did not forget, sir, how naturally it would occur to you and to many likely to be present, that there are others, both on the committee, and

not on it, who (had they been so disposed) could discharge this duty with more propriety, and better effect. It was, however, otherwise ordered. I submitted—and, so far as now appears, you will all have to do the same. . . .

There cannot be many here tonight who need to be told that the annals of our Topsfield pulpit run a good way back. Peregrine White, who was born in the Mayflower, a little before the landing, had just attained to his majority when Mr. William Knight preached the first sermon in this town. It needs but a little history and a little arithmetic to see that the record of this pulpit includes exactly nine such periods, as this which has now come to a close and which we celebrate this evening. As there must be many present who were not so fortunate as to hear, either your quarter-century discourse last Sunday, or your elaborate historical series, a year or two since, I will here state that, of your eleven predecessors, only two, in point of duration, attained to your standard—and they went a good deal beyond it. Mr. Capen was here forty-one years—Mr. Emerson held on forty-six years. Had Mr. Huntington lived a year and a half longer, he would have completed *his* quarter-century. The ministries of the remaining seven, that is of, Knight, Perkins, Gilbert, Hobart, Breck, Dennis, and McEwen, lasted, as nearly as can now be made out, from seven to eleven years, each,—and not one of these died while incumbent here. The four long ministries embrace a period of 136 years and give an average of 34 years. The statistics of this pulpit—so far as they go—seem to indicate that there has been some stability, as well as some fickleness in the ecclesiastical habits of Topsfield.

Gathered here, Sir, as we are to commemorate your long term of service, the scene and its associations must remind some among us, of your immediate predecessor. There are, certainly, a very few present, who with memories running back more than half a century, still recall the face, the form, the voice of the much revered and much loved Asahel Huntington. A somewhat larger number could tell you how the Rev. Mr. Dennis looked—how precisely he talked—how well he preached;—while a good many, doubtless, still hold in grateful remembrance Mr.

McEwen's prosperous ministry. The probability, however is that a decided majority of your parishioners, now present and those who usually sit under your preaching, remember very little of any ministry, earlier, or other than your own. . . .

Five-and-twenty years of minister life in a small country town! What a story they tell of vigil, and study, and toil in pulpit preparation! Of discourses written and discourses preached! If we reduce the amount one quarter, and take out—say six hundred and fifty for occasional help, and exchanges, and a moderate use of the old barrel—you must still have prepared—as I reckon—about two thousand sermons. The bare physical labor—which is only a mere modicum of the whole—is truly appalling to contemplate.

I calculate also that you have attended during your ministry in Topsfield, nearly or quite five thousand religious meetings—including all kinds. Surely that is something to look at in the aggregate. It is equal to one whole year, and three quarters of another year of continual meeting—calling the days ten hours each:—and ten hours, now, are considered a very long day. And even this computation is far from covering all the services which have been devolved upon you as minister of the parish. . . .

It would have been a very questionable compliment, my dear sir, to ask your presence on such an occasion as this had we not brought something in our hands as well as on our lips. In this book you will find the sum of five hundred and eighty three dollars, which is tendered you by parishioners and friends, as a slight testimonial of grateful esteem. More than two hundred persons have contributed to this little offering, and their names, with a few anonymous exceptions, will be handed to you. In amount, these subscriptions range from ten cents to two hundred and fifty times that sum. But the smallest may rank with the largest, when viewed in connection with the ability of the giver, and especially with the esteem and affection that may have prompted the gift.

Several of these contributions you will be pleased to perceive, are from persons not now of Topsfield, who have thus generously manifested their love for the old town, as well as their regard for you.

To this address, Mr. McLoud replied briefly, modestly and gratefully.

The Rev. Dr. Taylor then read, and the choir sung the the following hymn, written for the occasion by Miss H. McEwen Kimball of Portsmouth, N. H., whose father was of Topsfield.

With God's unchanging goodness crowned,
The year perfected nears its close;
Our barns are filled, our fruits abound,
The sweet new wine of plenty flows.

O blessed season shadowing forth,
The white ingathering of the Lord,
Whose harvest song begun on earth
The faithful sing with faith's accord!

Rich are the stores by heaven unrolled
In russet orchards, amber fields,
But richer those unseen, untold.
The furrow of the Master yields.

And blest o'er all is he whose time
In holy toils to Christ is given;
The fruits of Love's immortal clime
Shall satisfy his soul in heaven.

Yea, while the bread of life he breaks
For hungry souls that own his care,
Those fruits already he partakes,
Since angels feed him unaware.

At this point, Asahel Huntington, Esq. of Salem, by request of the Committee, took the chair, and made a short introductory speech, which abounded in interesting reminiscence and pleasant allusions. He then called on the Rev. Mr. Coggin of East Boxford—one of the council that ordained Mr. McLoud, and his nearest clerical neighbor—who responded in a short speech full of good feeling.

IN UNION HALL

At the conclusion of these remarks, the hour of eight having struck, the meeting, in conformity with previous arrangement and notice, adjourned to Union Hall. Here, where refreshments had been provided, some four hundred persons assembled, filling the too limited space to its utmost capacity. After an hour devoted to the table and to conversation, and followed by instrumental music, the meeting was again called to order, and, for two hours longer, listened with patient and seemingly pleased attention to the speeches and the music. Mr. Jotham B. Sewall, formerly of Lynn, and now a Professor in Bowdoin College, an intimate friend of Mr. McLoud; Dr. Jeremiah Taylor of Middleton, Conn., another warm friend and former neighbor; Rev. Dr. Fitz of Ipswich, who was moderator of the ordaining council in Topsfield, twenty-five years ago; the Rev. George D. Wildes, Rector of Grace Church, Salem; Rev. Daniel P. Noyes, Secretary of the Society for Home Evangelization; Rev. Mr. Whiton of Lynn; Rev. John S. Sewall of Wenham; Rev. Mr. French of Hamilton, and Rev. Mr. Richardson of Lincoln, both of whom have been teachers in Topsfield; all these gentlemen spoke, and spoke well, adding greatly to the interest of a most interesting occasion. We were sorry not to hear the Rev. Mr. Carruthers of Danvers, who was called for, but had left. We saw there, the Rev. Mr. Pierce of West Boxford, Rev. Mr. Richardson of Linebrook, and Rev. George Hood, a native of Topsfield, and now of Princeton, N. J. That we did not *hear* from them likewise was due, we suppose, to the want of time. The Rev. George T. Dole, formerly of Beverly, and now of Stockbridge, a college and seminary classmate of Mr. McLoud, sent a poetic epistle in the serio-comic style, which was read by Mr. Cleaveland, and which seemed to please the audience.

In the absence of a practiced reporter, we are unable to give the substance of these very pleasant speeches, a thing which we regret. Especially would we like to reproduce the introductory and interjected remarks of the

venerable and genial gentleman who presided on the occasion. We do not hesitate to call him "venerable" for he talked familiarly of scenes in which he had borne an important part, "more than sixty years ago."

Of all that was said that evening, both in church and the Hall, it may, with truth, be asserted, that while it left a deep impression of the high esteem in which Mr. McCloud is held by competent judges, who have known him long and well, it was remarkably free from that adulatory tone which so often disfigures the utterances of such occasions. On the whole we can say, and do cheerfully say, that it was an uncommonly agreeable and well conducted affair, highly creditable to the Society, and to the modest man their pastor, who has served them so faithfully and so long.

THE SINGING, &C.

The singing was a marked and very attractive feature of this interesting solemnity, and to some, at least, was suggestive of the day, when Topsfield prided itself—not wholly without reason—on its musical taste and power. The large choir was well led by Mr. Humphrey Balch, assisted in the tenor, by Mr. Moses P. Horn of Lexington (a Topsfield man by virtue of his wife). Mr. Horn's musical ability is well known. The organ, a very good instrument was skillfully played by Miss Susan A. Kimball, while a sister of hers, who would be prized in any choir, was one of the alto singers. This incident, so fit in itself, was specially pleasing to some who knew the grand-uncle of these young ladies, Jacob Kimball, whose fugues of tremendous power still ring in memory's ear, and whose fame as a teacher and composer extended at one time, far beyond the bounds of Massachusetts. Another singer of this occasion, whose looks and admirable execution drew every eye and ear, Mrs. Caroline A. Howe of the soprano, was an additional instance of the well known fact, that peculiar talents and qualities run in certain families, and recalled to some, as they looked and listened, those vanished years, when her aunts Mary and Eliza Averill seemed to all who saw and heard them,

remarkable exceptions to the general rule, that birds of beauty are *not* also birds of song. Others, whose faces we were happy again to see, and whose voices sounded sweetly from the seats with which they were once familiar, might be and would be mentioned here, did time and space permit.

We must not leave unmentioned the tables, which were tastefully set, liberally furnished, and waited on by ladies with kind courtesy and hospitable grace. Nor shall the admirable music, both vocal and instrumental which filled up so agreeably the intervals of talk, fail to receive the tribute of our praise. In the Hall as well as in the Church the deportment of the large assembly was highly commendable. In conclusion, we are happy to state that the pecuniary contribution has since been raised to something over six hundred dollars.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 25, 1866.

TOPSFIELD—On Christmas evening, the M. E. Sunday School gave a grand entertainment in Union Hall, consisting of recitations, declamations, dialogues, dramas, tableaux, &c., with some fine singing by the children. The great feature of the entertainment was the appearance of Santa Claus down the chimney, with his bags of gifts for the members of the school, which ranged from a beautiful black walnut writing desk fully equipped, for the Superintendent Mr. Floyd, to the smaller presents for the "lambs of the flock," so that it is safe to say that *all* had a gift from *St. Nick*. On Thursday evening, Jan. 10, the S. School will repeat their Christmas exhibition. Should the weather be stormy, the entertainment will be given on the first fair evening.

The Essex County South Temperance Society, held its regular quarterly meeting in the Orthodox Church, Topsfield, on Thursday last.

The usual address was given by Rev. Mr. French of Hamilton, Father Thompson, Dr. Dudley, Mr. Hardy of South Danvers, Mr. Nutter and S. P. Cummings also spoke.

The meeting adjourned to meet in Granite Hall, Danvers, the first Thursday in April next.

The citizens of Topsfield provided bountifully for the wants of the inner man, and everything went off pleasantly.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 4, 1867.

TOPSFIELD.—The financial report of this town, for the year just closed, shows the total receipts to have been \$13,046.75; expenditures, \$11,693.25—leaving a balance in the treasury of \$1,353.50. The amount paid for schools, was \$1,339.28; poor 559 40; town officers 481.43 roads and bridges, 197.57; pathing snow, 366.22, abatement of taxes, 105.94; note, 2,253; interest, 1,109.52; state aid, 2,724; miscellaneous, 2,556.89. What are classed as the ordinary expenses of the year, exclusive of pathing snow, amount to \$3,681.70. The liquor agency yielded a profit of \$145.45. The liabilities of the town amount to \$20,872.18; assets, \$8,826 17—leaving a balance against the town of \$12,046.01. The Selectmen in closing their report, state that two string pieces have been put into the bridge across Galloup's brook, and the bridge has been relaid with new plank. The South school house needs repairs.

Salem Gazette, Mar. 1, 1867.

TOPSFIELD.—*Town Meeting*—At the regular March meeting for the choice of town officers held on Tuesday last, the following gentlemen were elected for the year ensuing:

Moderator—Richard Phillips, Jr.

Selectmen—Jacob Foster, David Clark, Andrew Gould.

Assessors—J. W. Batchelder, Moses B. Perkins, Nathl. Conant.

Overseers of the Poor—Dudley Perkins, J. W. Batchelder.

Treasurer—Jeremiah Balch.

School Committee—Nehemiah Cleveland, Sidney Merriam 3 years, Rev. F. Welch 2 years.

Constables—Henry W. Lake, Benj. Lane, B. A. Orne.

Field-driver—B. A. Orne.

Pound-keeper—B. A. Orne.

Salem Gazette, March 8, 1867.

TOPSFIELD—The course of lectures, now brought to a close, has been a success. Our people have had an opportunity of listening to some of our most able and popular lecturers, upon subjects connected with history, government, travels, and social life. The lectures have proved a source of rare entertainment, and of much profit to all who heard them.

First Lieut. John H. Towne of the Rhode Island State Militia, has been elected Captain of Co. E. Mechanic Rifles. He is a native of Topsfield Mass.

Salem Gazette, March 27, 1867.

TOPSFIELD—The fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Nehemiah Perkins was commemorated on Saturday, May 4th, by a gathering of their children, grandchildren, and other relatives, at the old family home in Topsfield.

Although every occasion of this kind, both from the infrequency of such a meeting and from the many associations connected with it, is one of no common interest, there were some facts which must have tended to render *this* anniversary peculiarly a day of thanksgiving to those who observed it.

There are very few families of so many members, which have so many years remained unbroken by the hand of death, and almost unentered by severe sickness.

Of ten children, with the exception of one who died in infancy all are now living, and all but one were present at this reunion. The father and mother, though past their three score year and ten, are still vigorous and able to attend to their ordinary duties with all the interest and, we might almost say, with all the energy of their younger years. We understand that but once, during the past half century, has Mr. Perkins been so unwell as to consult a physician, and that, except a comparatively brief period then, he has not been confined to his house by sickness a single day. During all this period he has lived within half a mile of his present residence, and for more than forty years has occupied his present farm, which, accordingly, may with more than ordinary emphasis be called the old family home.

We have heard of a Golden Wedding at which the the clergyman, who had first joined the couple in wedlock. was present and performed the ceremony a second time.

The present occasion was characterized by a feature perhaps quite as rare and pleasing, in the presence of her who had acted as the bridesmaid fifty years ago.

Salem Gazette, May 10, 1867.

TOPSFIELD.—List of Officers of She-ne-we-me-dy Lodge No 73 I. O. of G. T.: John H. Dodge, W. C. T.; Mary L. Nichols, W. V. T.; Georgie A. Waterhouse, W. S.; Louis H. Waterhouse, W. F. S.; Dora T. Sweeney, W. T.; Carrie E. Pray, W. C.; David Smith, W. M.; Baxter P. Pike, W. I. G.; Horace M. Ray, W. O. G.; Charles G. P. Floyd, W. A. S.; Mary E. Smith, W. D. M.; Mary G. Dodge, W. R. S.; Addie E. Pike, W. F. S.; George H. Waterhouse, P. W. C. T.

Salem Gazette, May 10, 1867.

W. P. Wilds' Topsfield, Danvers, So.

Danvers and Salem Express.

Leaves Topsfield at 8 o'clock A. M.

Returning, leaves Salem at 1 o'clock, P. M.

Orders may be left at Post Office, Wm. E. Kimball's and S. B. Perkins's, Topsfield; E. B. Waitt's, Danvers, F. Dane & Co's. South Danvers; and at Mr. Abbott's, Market Square, Salem.

Being connected with the Railroad Expresses at Salem we are enabled to forward orders with the utmost dispatch to all accessible points in the United States and British Provinces.

We also connect with the Georgetown and Haverhill Expresses at Topsfield daily.

We pay strict and personal attention to the collection and paying of notes and bills, and all matters carefully attended to.

Salem Gazette, May 24, 1867.

TOPSFIELD.—Mr. Arial H. Gould has recently slaughtered a hog weighing 703 pounds. Mr. Gould raises large hogs

and does a great business, being extensively engaged in butchering and farming. He has leased the Agricultural Farm for seven years, and has lately purchased a large tract of land situated in the northerly part of the town. He gives employment to a great number of men many of whom are seen in all parts of Essex County with his splendid teams, furnishing the best of meat and vegetables to an extensive population.

Salem Gazette, May 31, 1867.

TOPSFIELD, July 4th 1867.—*Editors Gazette*.—Thinking a few lines from Topsfield might be of interest to your many readers hereabouts, and knowing of their eagerness in always looking for something in the Mercury when it come, from their own town, we send you a few items.

The Morning Mail.—A few months since a petition was drawn up and headed by N. Cleveland, Esq., and very numerously signed by our business men and leading citizens generally in favor of having a morning mail for this town, which was forwarded to the department at Washington for their approval; since which time we have heard nothing whatever about the matter. We presume it did not meet with good success and that the post office department did not deem it expedient to grant it. A mail in the morning is an institution we are much in need of in this town and we hope we shall finally have one. As it is now, we can get no letters or papers from Salem or Boston till a quarter past four in the afternoon and that is a long time to wait, considering our near proximity to Boston. No doubt our excellent postmaster B. P. Adams, Esq., with his prompt assistants, would be in favor of it and would do all in his power to bring it about, or anything else connected with the office, provided the public good would be promoted thereby.

By the way, speaking of the Postmaster, we learn that with all the vicissitudes of changes of politics, of the different administrations, Mr. Adams has held the office from his first appointment, somewhere about twenty years ago. During all this time he has administered the affairs of the office with universal satisfaction to the public

as the long period he has been in the service will testify. In fact this happened to be one of the appointments "fit to be made."

The Hay Crop.—Our farmers are busily employed in getting in their hay, and the crop is enormous, exceeding that of any for a number of years past, although not quite up to the expectation of many previous to commencing haying. By what we have seen, we should judge the farmers might be well satisfied with their hay mows this year.

Potatoes and Corn are looking finely and we shall have an abundance. Of apples, there is none worth talking about. We took occasion a few days ago to examine some of the orchards hereabouts and we came to the conclusion that the worms in crawling from one apple to another this fall would shed tears to think they had got so far to walk. In a hasty ride through "Firetown" and Byfield we noticed that the apple trees were in a like condition. We think, so far as this town is concerned, in regard to apples, one of our leading prohibitory law advocates has got his wish verified. It was that when the trees were in bloom, he wished the blossoms might all be blighted, that there might not be a single apple to make cider from. He ought to eat his beans without vinegar.

Mr. Thos. W. Perley has recently made an addition to his other good things in the shape of choice oysters which he receives fresh from the market daily, which must prove of great convenience to our citizens. The Essex Co. Mercury can be found on his counter every Tuesday evening.

Floyd's Salem Express.—We must not omit to say a few words in regard to our new expressman Mr. C. J. P. Floyd. It is well known that he has recently succeeded to the express business of Mr. Janes, which was established some ten or twelve years ago; and in this connection we would take the occasion to say that those having orders in this line will find Mr. F. just the man for the post—honest, prompt and obliging. This is our own experience.

PORTER.

The correspondent from Topsfield who has already sent us two communications criticising the management of the singing in the Congregational Church of that town, in the interest of "peace and harmony," is very kindly but most decidedly informed that, in our judgment, the very last method to pursue in the way of securing "harmony" in a church choir, is the agitation of any differences through the columns of *our* "excellent paper," or that of any other publisher. We are always ready to open our columns to the consideration of all questions of public or general interest; but we are confident that even the remarkable patience we possess couldn't possibly bear up under a discussion involving the merits of different singers or leaders in a church choir. Vocalists, as a class, are very musical people; but when they fall out among themselves, they are, to tell the truth, very in-harmonious—so much that we naturally shrink from a position under one of their cross-fires.

Salem Gazette, July 12, 1867.

TOPSFIELD. July 21.—A heavy northeast rain storm has prevailed here since yesterday morning, the rain falling incessantly, since that time. To-day there is quite a gale which bids fair to hold out through the night.

There is a large amount of hay out, which must necessarily be in a very bad condition. The weather for the past week has been very favorable for haymaking, so much so that our farmers have drove into it with the utmost dispatch, putting on all the help they could obtain and of course there must be a great quantity cut down, some of which was partly made and some in a green state. The latter of course will be in the best condition when the storm clears off provided it does not heat, and we don't think it will be likely to, because the weather is so cool.

I see by the *Gazette* that you refuse to publish the correspondence from this town criticising the management of the singing in the congregational church, which no doubt is all proper enough. We were going to have a few words to say in this affair, but we learned this

morning that they had adjusted matters to their entire satisfaction by choosing a new chorister (who by the way is an old one at the business) and we suppose now everything will go along pleasantly, and that there will be "harmony" among them.

As things have gone along of late, we could hardly perceive from where we sat, whether the choir was up stairs or down, there were so many of the congregation around us, "helping them out."

We want them to sing next Sunday the hymn commencing

Blest be the tie that binds
 Our hearts in Christian love.
 The fellowship of kindred minds
 Is like to that above.

IN MEMORIAM.

Lines written on the death of Mrs. Benjamin Pike of
 Topsfield, by her daughter Mrs. Arethusa E. Andrew.

Over the fearfully swelling river,
 Far across to the hither shore,
 The light of life not quenched forever,
 The gentle spirit but gone before;
 The angel of death o'er the mystic flood,
 Has borne the life of our mother to God.

To sin, and anguish, and contrition
 To hope deferred, she bids farewell,
 Now in the bliss of full fruition,
 God makes our angel mother dwell,
 But, can the glorified spirit know,
 The desolate blank of her home below?

There tender eyes in mute caressing
 Shall bless her children—nevermore,
 Her life of love—a constant blessing
 The beacon light of our hearts is o'er;
 If we follow the ray of the steady star,
 We shall find her again in a land afar.

But as we linger a little longer,
 Motherless children and widowed sire,
 Let our mutual love grow stronger,
 Warmed and cemented by chastening fire;
 For our yearning hearts must vainly pray
 For the council and sympathy gone for aye.

Let not the cloud of our desolation,
 Darken the light of a Savior's love,
 But rather renew our consecration,
 Of the life that is, to the life above;
 We may weep at the grave, so did God's dear son,
 But bow in submission—"Thy will be done."

Salem Gazette, July 19, 1867.

A Swindler.—A man giving his name as Geo. H. Perkins, came here a few weeks ago and engaged Board at a Hotel, kept by Mr. Parkinson. After stopping a little more than a week he left, leaving behind him, besides the frowns and indignation of the worthy host and hostess an unreceipted Board bill of some four or five dollars. While here he acted as agent for some few articles besides being a travelling dentist, got acquainted with a lady or two, and then decamped as above stated. We have seen since in some half a dozen papers, more or less, mention of the arrest and imprisonment of an individual down in the State of Maine answering the description of the one above mentioned, for a like offence and in all probability it is the same person. Mr. P. desires us to give notice in the columns of the Salem Gazette to all Hotel proprietors, Boarding house-keepers, saloon keepers, tailors, shoemakers, barbers, boot blacks, &c., and, last though not least, to all marriageable young ladies to be on their guard against said Perkins, as he is not worthy of their trust, confidence or affections.

The funeral services over the remains of the late Eleazer Lake, Esq., one of our most worthy and respected citizens, took place yesterday (Sunday) at one o'clock P. M. at the orthodox Congregational church, the Rev. Anson McLoud officiating. The day being one of the most beautiful of the season with perfectly cloudless sky, a large concourse

of our citizens were in attendance. The ceremonies were of a highly interesting and impressive order. M.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 23, 1867.

TOPSFIELD, Sept. 1, 1867.—*Editors Gazette*: We sat down with the intention of giving you an account of the business done here in our smart little town, but we see the Gazette is so crowded by your advertising patrons, that we shall be compelled to give but little and that with a few details as possible, and defer the rest for some more favorable opportunity. Although Topsfield is a small community, it can boast of doing considerable of a business in the shoe line; we don't expect to compare with Lynn, Haverhill, Danvers, and other large shoe places, for we are nothing but a drop in the bucket compared with them, but we are a "drop" with them at any rate.

We have four shoe manufactories in town, all of whom do quite an extensive business, with the exception of one. Messrs. C. Herrick & Co. probably do the largest business in town. Messrs. Baily, Saunders & Co., Joseph Towne, and Frederick Stiles come next. All the above firms manufacture Women's, Misses' and Children's Shoes altogether, with the exception of Mr. Stiles, who makes mostly boots and custom work generally, and whose goods are used for about-home consumption. They give employment to a large number of workmen, both in town and also in the surrounding towns of Boxford, Middleton, Byfield and Danvers. Their goods are manufactured for the Southern, Southwestern and Western trade generally, with some few exceptions. There have been a large number of buyers here this season, rather more than usual, and the trade has been quite brisk for the past four weeks, but there is a gradual falling off now, as their customers have about all returned home.

As we go on, we come to the carriage manufactory of Mr. Thomas K. Leach. Here we find everything, large or small, that a horse, pair of oxen, or even an elephant can draw, made up to order in a manner that

few can excel. Mr. L. can always be found at his post, and his works are always under his own immediate supervision. In fact his name upon a wagon or sleigh is sufficient guarantee of its superior stock and excellent workmanship. Next, Mr. Geo. H. Waterhouse, machinist. He does quite a large business in the manufacture of sole, stiffening and heel dies, knives, &c., and supplies the shoe manufactories not only in this town but in all large shoe towns in the county, with the above tools, and so celebrated is his fame in this particular, that he frequently receives orders from the far West and other remote quarters, for the various kinds of tools he makes.

Mr. Parkinson says he thinks his delinquent customer (notice of whom appeared in the Gazette last week) after having so many broadsides from the press in the shape of kicks, must now be on the run for dear life, if he is yet out of jail. So should we think so to, running at lightning speed, like a locomotive, with a *tender behind*. So much for not being tender before, and paying Mr. P. his hotel bill.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 30, 1867.

TOPSFIELD.—On Friday night, Mr. Wm. E. Kimball, grocer, of this town, was awakened from his sleep by a stone having been thrown into his parlor, through a pane of glass by a person who, at the same time, shouted to him from the street. On getting up, he was attracted by the reflection of a light, which had just been kindled in the privy, by the use of hay which was lying around outside. The man ran away, but has not since been discovered. At about four o'clock on Saturday morning the school house of the Centre District was discovered to be on fire but was immediately extinguished by persons living in the vicinity—hay having been used evidently of the same kind as that employed in setting the other fire. These incendiary attempts are very singular, but no person in particular is suspected of the rascality.

Since the above was prepared, our attentive correspondent sends us another account from which it appears

that the second fire was discovered by Mr. Eugene Wildes, as he was passing through town on his way to Salem market, and who immediately alarmed the nearest neighbors, who put out the flames. The damage was slight, the floor and a few sleepers having been burned through. Our correspondent adds that these fires were evidently not the work of premeditated design, but probably of mischievous rowdies from out of town.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 6, 1867.

TOPSFIELD—Last Thursday, while at work repairing the highways, the question was asked, how many acres of road there were in the town? Whereupon Mr. Samuel Clifford drew from his pocket a slip of paper containing the following statement, taken from actual survey, and dated Aug. 30th, 1860: number of acres in the town, 8,352⁷/₈; number of acres of land, 8,260¹/₈; number of acres covered by water, 92³/₄; number of acres in road, 242¹/₂; number of miles of road, 39²/₈. As there have been no new roads built since the above date, and as the *Agawam* has returned to the space allotted to its birth, these figures need no correction. F.

The Assessors of Topsfield have completed the valuation of the Personal and Real Estate in said town for the year 1867, and made an assessment of taxes.

No. of Polls, 314. Valuation of personal estate \$217,012; Real \$409,988; total valuation \$627,000; Town tax \$5,000; County \$919.75; State \$3,650. Rate of taxation, \$14.50 on \$1,000. The following named persons are assessed \$50 and upwards.

B. P. Adams,	\$90 60	A. Gould,	62 87
Elizabeth M. Adams,	54 91	Est. of J. P. Gould	53 67
John Bailey,	57 61	Charles Herrick,	108 38
Humphrey Balch,	69 73	C. H. Holmes,	83 78
Abraham Balch,	89 29	C. Herrick & Co.,	72 50
Humphrey Clarke,	74 21	Wm. E. Kimball,	67 96
Wm. Cummings,	65 83	C. H. Lake	67 47
N. Cleaveland	56 24	J. B. Lamson	131 00
Benjamin Conant	58 88	Henry Long,	50 82
Est of J. Dwinnell,	74 04	Est Dr. R. A. Merriam	99 26

Wm. Munday,	69 84	J. A. Towne,	60 34
A. S. Peabody,	63 16	Mrs. Mary Taylor,	78 89
E. P. Peabody,	69 85	B. B. Towne,	147 61
M. B. Perkins,	91 60	J. Waldo Towne,	73 27
Dudley Perkins,	114 12	David Towne,	88 52
Est. of David Perkins,	54 57	L. P. Towne.	82 77
Mrs. D. G. Perkins,	67 63	J. P. Towne,	114 27
Est. of Daniel Perkins,	51 86	Daniel Towne,	60 72
D. A. Pettengill,	83 62	Moses Wildes,	334 01
R. Phillips, Jr.	50 89	Trustees Bixby	
Thomas P. Pierce,	686 87	Donation Fund	53 29
Asa Pingree,	628 24	Non Resident,	
Benjamin Poole,	102 93	John Bradstreet of	
Willard Smith,	79 94	Danvers,	69 24
<i>Salem Gazette, Oct. 4, 1867.</i>			

TOPSFIELD.—Last Wednesday evening there was a festival in Union Hall, which is in the basement of the Methodist church. It was in aid of repairs for the Methodist church and parsonage, and was entirely successful and satisfactory to those concerned in inaugurating it as well as to those who attended for pleasure. The tables were abundantly supplied with refreshments, which included an oyster supper. Among the attractions of the table was a loaf of cake made by Mrs. Sarah Potter, which was bought for \$6.25 by Mr. Thomas Perley, who generously cut it up and gave the company a taste of its excellent qualities. A few remarks were offered by the pastor, Rev. Wm. D. Bridge, who began by telling a humorous story of a cat and a mouse in a rum barrel, by way of illustrating the pleasant things he said. C. H. Holmes, Esq., the poet who is not only humorous but whose ideas are always *lofty*, read one of his characteristic productions to the amusement of the hall-full of people. His allusions to the painting of his house and its effect on some of its widows, were of course comical and amusing. The gathering was continued until eleven o'clock. A detachment of eight pieces of the Danvers Brass Band, under the lead of Mr. Moore, contributed greatly to the enjoyment of the occasion, and furnished

some specimens of its good music on the common in front of the church at the close. The affair was very successful pecuniarily, and much credit is due to Mr. C. J. P. Floyd, the prompt and reliable expressman, for the zeal and energy which he brought to bear upon the preliminary arrangements. The Methodist Society here struggles but thrives, and the minister, Mr. Bridge, is much liked, both as a preacher and a citizen.

On Wednesday night Mr. Richard Ward, while cutting meat at the butchering establishment of Mr. A. H. Gould, made a slip and cut his hand severely.

A few nights ago, some difficulty occurred between two men who had been employed by Mr. Munday, during which one stabbed the other though not dangerously. Rum was the instigator.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 18, 1867.

For the Salem Gazette.

TOPSFIELD IN MAINE.

Died, in Topsfield, Maine, suddenly, of heart disease, on June 28th, Mr. NEHEMIAH KNEELAND, aged about 80. As so much romance and history are connected with the subject of this notice, I send you a brief account of him. Mr. Kneeland was born in Topsfield, in our own county of Essex, May 5th, 1789, and being one of a large family of children, which increased in numbers beyond the capacity of the paternal mansion, made it necessary that the older portion of the boys should step out to give place to those who were coming after, and Nehemiah having grown to the stature of a man, with a will and courage proportionate to a good share of physical strength, started off to make his own fortune. As the then district of Maine was comparatively a wilderness, and the current of emigration had not at that time begin its current towards the West, he directed his course towards the east, and made his first stopping place in the (then) little town of Harrison, which at that time had but comparatively a handful of inhabitants. There he remained about ten years, when the population became so thick,—the

houses getting within some half mile of each other, and having left his father's house to find room,—Harrison soon lost its charms for him, and he determined to penetrate the wilderness still farther, where the neighbors were not as thick, and from Harrison he moved northwardly to the "rural district" of Lincoln, which was then a small township with few inhabitants. There he stayed eight years, when he began to feel the same annoyances which caused him to leave Harrison, the population becoming too dense, the neighbors getting within a mile or so towards him, with a young family of his own, and that (like his father's) still expanding, he formed another determination to make one more move, hoping this time to make a permanent location in full enjoyment of his rural taste and employments, with none but his own family to break the stillness of his fond retreats; and as a large portion of Maine was an unbroken wilderness he determined to penetrate its trackless forest far beyond the haunts of civilized man, and with no other guide or assistant than the man who drove his team of oxen thither he directed his attention and packed on his sled his household effects and farming implements, topping his load with his wife and seven children, (5 boys and 2 daughters); and in February, 1832, through a pathless wilderness and untrodden snow of two or three feet deep—with no shelter to protect them from the severity of the storms and weather. None but a man of determined will and undaunted courage would hazard the undertaking, but he was a man just adapted to the task, to qualify him for a successful pioneer. With axe in hand, felling trees and clearing away underbrush to make a path for the patient oxen as they drew all of this earth most dear to him, patiently and perseveringly he cut his way for thirteen wearisome days and nights; and on the morning of the fourteenth day he made a final stop, unpacked his load and sent back his man. And now the sober reality stares him in the face that he is some fifty miles from any civilized habitation, with a wife and seven helpless children, scantily supplied with food sufficient to gratify their craving wants, no shelter to protect them from the piling storms and the remain-

der of the rigors of the balance of the winter yet to come. But he knew just what to do in this emergency. His first business was to cut and prepare logs and build a snug warm cabin for their immediate wants; then to commence clearing a patch for the cultivation of a crop for the coming summer, and learn the geographical location of his whereabouts. He found himself located in what was set down on the chart of the "District of Maine" as "No. 9." The new and rich soil gave him a bountiful harvest; the streams were abundant in trout; wild game, such as moose, deer and bear, as plenty as might be desired (where there was a family of children), and easily captured. The favorite cow, which he took with him, was generous in her nice milk from the sweet honeysuckle of the new soil; and in imagination one would be tempted to envy so romantic and quiet a home as he now found himself the possessor of. And he now began to realize some of the anticipations which he had so long indulged, and, for which he had endured so many hardships and privations. With a soil rich in fertility, and a climate well adapted to develop and give vigor to the well proportioned frames of his children who had shared with their father his robust constitution and physical strength, and like him strangers to sickness and disease, with as much of the surrounding land as he desired, covered with a mighty forest of wood in which the stillness of its long silence was first broken by his axe, he could say

"I am monarch of all I survey,
My right there is none to dispute,
I am lord of the fowl and the brute."

As his five sons and two daughters attained to the stature of manhood, both in physical and mental organization, and he had possessed himself of all he wanted to make up the area of his farm for himself and children, who began to feel that it was not good for man to be alone, one after another found their way into the outer world and took them partners to share the responsibilities of life in Section No. 8. As building materials were abundant, with a fine stream of water and good mill privilege, they built mills for sawing their logs into lumber and built them houses.

And as the romance of the father wore away, and seeing the necessity of a more dense population which would create a market for the lumber which the saw was turning out, as well as the introduction of social and moral advantages which his family needed, inducements were held out for settlers to come in. And as "No. 8." implied nothing but a wilderness it was thought proper to incorporate it into a town with a name; and in 1838 Mr. Kneeland applied to the Legislature, and by his own request had it incorporated as the town of Topsfield, after that of his nativity in Massachusetts. It is a pretty name having a poetical sound, well adapted to his taste and locality as well as a testimonial of the love he had for the town of his birth; and as there was no other town in this country of that name, (nor is there now) there was no reason why his request should not be granted. Emigration soon commenced to set towards Topsfield. Its alluvial rich soil inviting the farmer, the vast extent of the mighty forest with excellent water privileges for converting its timbers into lumber by building saw mills, the lumber men, mechanics of different trades—the rough log houses gave way for pretty cottages, after a New England model. With this steady increase both by birth and emigration it has now attained to a population that supports a post-office, two religious societies, and several school houses. Instead of the ox-cart and sled, the horse and buggy in summer and sleigh in winter are used. All this took place under the observation of Mr. Kneeland, who in his own day saw the wilderness bud and blossom like the rose, and become one of the most thriving towns in Washington County. And from what I learn from Mr. Johnson, the postmaster there, I am lead to think that the daughter of some fifty years will soon attain to all the privileges that are enjoyed by the mother of more than two hundred. From what I learn from the postmaster there, Mr. Kneeland has always maintained an integrity of character which he inherited from his father ("elder Kneeland" as he was called, he being one of the elders of the church in Topsfield, Mass.,) and enjoyed the confidence and respect which was due him who first planted the standard of civilization on the

soil trodden by none other than the savage and wild beast before him. Like a patriarch of old he looked upon the inhabitants as his children and in return was looked up to with a reverence due him; and at his death was "gathered" not "with his fathers" but beneath the soil of his adoption and though dead his name will be as perpetual as that of the town; and if the moral influence which he tried to impress upon his descendents and other residents continue, it will be a place from which moral light will emanate, that will be seen and felt as long as its name endures. I have said that but two towns have the name of Topsfield in this country. It was brought from England, and incorporated with that name in 1650, by persons from a town of the same name which was spelt at that time and is still Toppsfield. It was called by the aborigines She-ne-we-medy and before incorporation—New Meadows.

Salem Gazette, Nov. 1, 1867.

House breaking.—The house of Mr. Henry Long was entered on Friday night by some midnight thief, and a watch stolen. The thief entered by one of the kitchen windows, passed through the kitchen, sitting-room and into the bedroom occupied by Miss Esther Gould, and a little daughter of Mr. Long, seized the wearing apparel of Miss Gould, and decamped, taking the watch which hung in the kitchen as he went. It is supposed that the thief intended to get hold of Mr. Long's pants which were supposed to contain a large amount of money, as the ladies clothes were left just outside of the house; and how disappointed he must have been on finding that instead of broad-cloth he had got a balmoral; instead of cash, he had taken crinoline. It may be refreshing to the thief to know that the money which he so much coveted was within his reach, as he passed twice within a few feet of it. And should he call again he will find Mr. Long in one of the chambers, Mr. L. having relinquished the lower bedroom to the sole use of Miss Gould and the little girl.

JUNO.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 10, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—There is a deeper and more extended religious interest in this town at the present time than there has been before for thirty years. It commenced with the Week of Prayer and has gone on increasing in power since that time. The work is very quiet. Meetings are held every evening in the vesteries of the Methodist and Congregational Churches, which are crowded. A large number of conversions are reported—the converts persons of all ages and including quite a number of heads of families.—*Journal*.

Salem Gazette, Jan. 17, 1868.

Topics at the General Court.

B. P. Adams and 98 others of Topsfield severally pray for the removal of obstructions in the Ipswich River.

Salem Gazette, Feb. 4, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—The town expenditures, the past year, amounted to \$14,518.60, less \$4363.24 still on hand. The ordinary expenses amounted to \$4,090 07, which includes certain road repairs, etc. The expenses have been as follows: schools, \$831.43; overseers' account, \$561.12; town officers, \$311.45; roads and bridges, \$334.66; pathing snow, \$567.49; abatement of taxes, \$91.49; notes paid, \$1150; interest, \$1141.25; state aid, \$1024.50; miscellaneous, \$4141.97. The town debt amounts to \$19,925, and the liabilities above the assets amount to \$14,862.20. The liquor agency yielded a profit of \$257.96.

Salem Gazette, March 3, 1868.

Annual town meeting with list of officers elected. It was voted to purchase the academy building for a town school "A deed of the property to the town has been taken since the meeting held last Friday."

Salem Gazette, March 13, 1868.

Floyd's Topsfield, Danvers, South Danvers, and
Salem Express.

LEAVES Topsfield at 8 o'clock A.M.

Returning, leaves Salem at 1 o'clock P.M.

Offices in Topsfield—B. P. Adams, T. W. Perley, and
W. E. Kimball & Son.

In Danvers—C. H. Adams Jr's Store.

In Danversport—O. Richards & Sons Store.

In South Danvers—Dane's Block.

In Salem—J. Davenport's, (formerly Esty's) 17 Derby Square.

All matters promptly and faithfully attended to.

This Express connects at Salem with the railroad Expresses for all parts of the United States.

C. J. P. FLOYD, Proprietor.

Salem Gazette, March 24, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—There has been a remarkable revival of religion in Topsfield commencing on the first of January and still continuing, through the instrumentality of Rev. Mr. Bridge assisted by members of the Methodist church. About one hundred have been able to rejoice in their sins forgiven. The converts consist of business men, heads of families old and young, and some of the hardest cases have taken upon themselves the yoke of Christ. The fruits have been evident through the Town, especially with regard to public morals, and both young and old, saint and sinner, acknowledge that it is the work of God and marvelous in their eyes.

Salem Gazette, March 31, 1868.

In Topsfield, Mch. 31, William Hubbard Esq., aged 88 yrs. 7 mos. He was the oldest person in town, where he was born and always lived. With a vigorous mind and retentive memory, which was the basis of a limited education in his younger years, yet he acquired a knowledge of business that qualified him to fill offices of trust and responsibility to such a degree that he has been elected selectman, overseer and assessor more times than any other man in town. He was strictly a temperance man, and has not tasted of intoxicating drinks for upwards of forty years and when advised by his physician, a few days before his death, to use a very little to recuperate his sinking nature, he declined doing so, fearing he "might acquire a fondness for it." He was the father of Mr. W. R. Hubbard, who resided many years in So. Danvers and is well remembered as a teacher of vocal music and leader in public concerts.

Salem Gazette, April 2, 1868.

SALEM.—The following memorial, signed by nearly all our principal retail dealers, was presented, and appropriately referred:

To the Managers of the Salem Board of Trade,
Gentlemen:—The undersigned would respectfully represent that the railroad facilities for travel between Salem and Topsfield, Boxford, Georgetown, Byfield, Groveland, and Haverhill, are susceptible of much improvement, which it is believed a committee of inquiry from your Board could effect. There is but one of the three trains on the Newburyport and Danvers railroad which connects direct to Salem, and that by the Salem and Lowell R.R., the longer route.

Your petitioners would represent that as there are now ten trains from Danvers to Salem on the Lawrence Branch and eight from Salem to Danvers, that a conference with the managers of the Eastern and Boston and Maine R. Roads would seem likely to open the way for a more frequent and a more desirable connection between these towns and Salem, via the North Danvers Junction.

At present the average detention at Danvers for all the trains is *one hour and six minutes*, and the times of least delay are with those trains that connect direct with the Salem and Lowell R.R. Without these connecting trains, the average detention is *one hour and thirty-three minutes*, and as the distance from Salem to Georgetown is only seventeen miles, this delay practically stops travel to Salem, and sends trade to Boston, notwithstanding the distance is fourteen miles further than to Salem.

Salem, February, 1868.

Salem Gazette, April 24, 1868.

TOPSFIELD, May 1.—*Editors Gazette*.—It is so long since I have written anything for your columns, I felt almost ashamed to appear before your many readers hereabouts, but I have finally got up courage enough to give them a few items. We have at last got one necessary accommodation in town, which has long been needed, namely a hotel. Mr. Alfonso Munday has recently opened the "Topsfield House," which is situated in close proximity

to the depot, on a most delightful spot. Its near access to the railroad will make it a great accommodation to all travellers over the Newburyport road. From what we know of the proprietor we cannot but think that no effort will be spared to please; and if his looks do not belie him we should judge he must set a most bountious table. We believe there was formerly a hotel kept on the same spot, and in the same house, by the grandfather of the present occupant. This was in old stage times, when folks used to get acquainted with one another when travelling, not riding a hundred miles in the same seat with a person without speaking, as is done in these fast days. In those days the house was known far and near as "Munday's Hotel." The old gentleman is still living, at an advanced age, and is quite smart.

The old academy building which has recently been purchased by the town, for a school house, is being remodelled both inside and out, and will make a most excellent school house. We understand that the whole lower floor is to be occupied by the Primary Centre School. This is a good idea, for it will save the little ones from running and tumbling up and down stairs, as is the case in some schools. The second story was to be occupied by the Centre Grammar department. The old Centre School house was sold at auction a few days ago, for three hundred dollars. Messrs. Bailey, Sanders & Co., were the purchasers and we understand it is to be removed immediately from its present location, near the common, to the rear of the shoe manufactory of Messrs. B. S. & Co., and is to be converted into a tenement house.

The Methodist society in this town are about to purchase an organ for their church, if sufficient encouragement is given. Several meetings have already been held for the purpose, and a committee has been chosen to decide upon the matter, and also a soliciting committee has been appointed to raise funds in its behalf. We understand that some three or four hundred dollars have already been subscribed, and it is thought they will be able to raise the whole amount without a resort to holding festivals. If not they will probably hold a series of festivals for that purpose

but we should think it would be rather late in the season for such entertainments, if they intend to have the organ set up by the first of June, as is expected.

The revival in the Methodist church still continues, although their meetings are not held so often as formerly and there is not quite so much interest felt as at first; but their meetings are very fully attended.

We are glad to learn that Rev. Mr. Bridge, the officiating pastor of this church, is appointed by the conference to another year's labor with us. The past has been a fruitful year for this society, and during the time Dr. Bridge has been with us, up to the present week, there have been about one hundred and seventy or eighty conversions, including all classes in society. Certainly a good year's work for so small a place as this is.

The season here is cold and backward. Farmers have planted but little as yet, probably thinking the seed is better off out of the ground than in. M.

Salem Gazette, May 1, 1868.

Singular Marriage.—On Tuesday of last week, Mr. William Blodgett, a resident of Topsfield, who served creditably in the army in the late war, and is looking for a pension for support, called in at the public house of Mr. Parkinson, where a woman was staying who had been soliciting charity from the inhabitants. Blodgett said to her in substance, "I am going west. I have lost my wife, and wish to obtain one to accompany me." The woman replied that she was a widow, with two children to support, having lost her husband during the war, and that she would become his wife. Whereupon both repaired to the town clerk's, and procured a certificate, going afterward to the house of Rev. Mr. McCloud, where they were lawfully married.

Salem Gazette, May 15, 1868.

We can boast of a great amount of musical talent. The Congregational church has a quartette choir, which discourses some splendid music. The M. E. Church has a full choir which does justice to the music it performs.

Topsfield is always legally protected, having two eminent lawyers, viz: C. H. Holmes, and B. Poole.

The Good Templars flourish finely, having a full attendance at each meeting, and the great amount of good thus far done, is plainly seen. May God bless their labors.

I cannot close without speaking of the Topsfield hotel. Many years have passed away since we had an institution of this kind, and we hardly know how to appreciate it. Here the weary traveller may find rest, also a plenty to eat and drink. A sight at the proprietor will certainly recommend the House. The hostler neat and tidy will be found at his post. The only accident that has happened thus far to the House occurred during one of our high winds, which blew the sign down, but no particular damage was done. So much for Topsfield.

Salem Gazette, May 15, 1868.

CHARLES H. LAKE,
NURSEYMAN
AND NURSERY AGENT,
TOPSFIELD, MASS.

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN
FRUIT & ORNAMENTAL TREES,
Grape Vines, Currant, Gooseberry, Blackberry and
Raspberry Bushes.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS,
of all the leading varieties, including the new and
celebrated

"Dr. Nicaise."

☞ Particular attention given to the selection of Green House Plants, Roses, and all kinds of Flowering Plants.
Topsfield, March 17, 1868.

Salem Gazette, May 29, 1868.

CARD.

The undersigned takes this method of returning his sincere thanks to his patrons for their liberal favors during the past season, and would hereby give notice that he will

make a thorough canvass of Essex County during the summer months, for the fall trade, and would respectfully solicit a continuance of their patronage.

Some unprincipled persons have solicited orders in our name, and the public are hereby notified that in all cases where persons have made arrangements with us to supply their orders, they have a *written* certificate given in our hand writing, of *late date*, stating such fact.

Descriptive catalogue furnished on receipt of 10 cents.

Our Stock for Fall trade bids fair to be of *unsurpassed* excellence.

Every tree warranted true to name, and satisfaction guaranteed in every respect.

Orders and correspondence solicited.

CHAS. H. LAKE,

Topsfield, June 5, 1868. Nurseryman and Agent.

Salem Gazette, June 5, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—The old Academy which was purchased of Messrs. Balch & Peabody by the town at the annual meeting for a centre school house, is nearly completed, it having undergone thorough repairs, and will be ready for the school by the first of July.

The novel marriage that took place here a few weeks ago does not appear to turn out very happily to one of the parties, the woman. Some of our Danvers friends may probably know her, as she was a resident there several years; then it was a case of amalgamation, as the black-and tan offspring of her former husband shows at a glance. Her last recreant husband left the next morning after the marriage with instructions to her to meet him at Salem, but failed to keep the appointment himself, much to the discomfort and mortification of the deserted wife. We also understand that he did not pay the clergyman for his services, nor the proprietor of the public house where he spent his wedding night.

Some thief or thieves taking advantage of the dark and stormy nights last week, stole from the lines of Mr. Andrew Gould a whole wash of clothes; also a wash of clothes from the line of Mr. Wm. Gould, and some pieces from the yard of Mr. W. Kneeland.—*Statesman*

Salem Gazette, June 12, 1868.

TOPSFIELD—S. D. Hood will sell by auction, on Friday, the personal property of the late Mrs. Harriet Lake.

Mr. Porter G. Marshall has gone into the firm of Bailey, Sanders & Co.

Salem Gazette, June 26, 1868.

Horse Shoer and Farrier.

The subscriber having secured the services of Mr. WILLIAM FLYNN of Boston, the celebrated Horse Shoer, desires to give notice to owners of Horses in Topsfield and the surrounding towns, that he is prepared to do all kinds of Horse Shoeing in the best possible manner. Mr. Flynn will devote strict and personal attention to all difficulties of the feet, especially where any lameness has been caused by imperfect shoeing. Persons having horses which are troubled with over-reaching, interfering, &c., are invited to give us a fair trial, and we will guarantee good satisfaction.

LEWIS H. WATERHOUSE

Topsfield, May 19, 1868.

Salem Gazette, July 3, 1868.

TOPSFIELD—Notwithstanding the readers of the Mercury have not heard from Topsfield for some weeks past, still the old town is in its accustomed place, and our pleasant village still rests quietly within the circle of our verdure crowned hills. Business of all kinds is very brisk just now, especially in the shoe trade. Messrs. Herrick & Co. are doing all that they possibly can, and are turning out a much better line of goods than the general average of manufacturers. The old firm of Bailey, Saunders & Co., with its *new partner*, seem to have taken a new start, and are probably turning out more good work than ever before. Whether this new life is altogether owing to the addition recently made to the firm is more than we can tell, but certain it is, that adding a *live* man to an energetic company would be most likely to enliven the whole. Messrs. Jas. Towne and J. G. Boardman, are also doing all that their accommodations will permit, and the former has just enlarged his shop by the addition of an L, 15x 24 feet, two stories high, which admits of quite an enlargement in his business. Our wheelwrights, blacksmiths, and

carpenters, are all fully employed, and in fact there are none idle for the want of work.

Our farmers have nearly all secured their crop of hay in first rate order, and are now looking forward to their growing crops, anticipating an abundant harvest.

We have been "fixing up" here a little this summer, and when we get all through with our repairs our village will compare favorably with the prettiest in the land. First we have removed several large trees which stood nearly in the middle of our main street,* which for many years past have been like the ox in the parlor, neither ornamental nor useful. Now when our Surveyor shall have removed the bank of dirt left where the trees stood, that part of our village will surely have been improved.

The Congregationalist society have painted their church, and the Methodists are about to paint theirs. The latter society have just set up a splendid new organ in their church and *paid* for the same. Our schoolhouse in the Centre district is nearly done, and when finished will be second to no country schoolhouse in the State. Messrs. Herrick & Co. have newly painted their large shoe manufactory, and the residence of Mrs. Sam'l Adams is to be treated to a new coat of paint, and otherwise beautified and improved. Mr. Wm. Kneeland has built one of the prettiest cottages to be found for miles around, while the houses of Messrs. Wm. Waite, J. P. Towne, H. W. Lake and Wm. B. Kimball, have been remodelled, revised and enlarged.

Of amusements our people are enjoying their full share, we are not much of picnic hands, but then we can beat the world on going to the beach.

Last Wednesday, however, the Methodist Sunday School held their annual picnic at Groveland, going in the 9 o'clock A. M. train and returning in the 6 o'clock P. M. train. They numbered about 150, and all seemed to have spent the day very pleasantly and enjoyed themselves very much. This I believe is the first picnic excursion ever started in this town, and much credit is due to the Superintendent, Mr. Floyd, for the energy and care with which he made his arrangements and conducted the whole

*Along South Main St. near Summer St.

affair, by taking charge of so many little children and returning them all safely to their homes.

To-day our Methodist friends leave their homes to meet their brethren on the tented green at Hamilton.

One item more and I close. Our lodge of Good Templars have voted to surrender their charter, sell their effects and close up. This we greatly regret, for we had hoped that this Order would live, thrive, and be a power for good in our community; and we still hope that phoenix like, it may again arise from its ashes and become a power to stay the tide of intemperance which is so strongly setting in upon us.

J. A.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 14, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—In my last communication I remarked that "we could beat the world in going to the beach;" and we think if any one had doubted that assertion, and had resided in Topsfield during the past week, he would have seen *that*, which would have convinced him of the truth of the assertion.

On Wednesday last, early in the morning, our good people were all astir, for on that day a large party were to go to the beach. Hingham had been selected as the place to spend the day, but how to get there and return in one day was the question. But those who had proposed the excursion were equal to the emergency, and to them (Mr. T. K. Leach and wife) are the company indebted for their days enjoyment.

Arrangements were made with the B. & M. Railroad Co., to have a car left here over night, to be taken to Danvers by the freight train on Wednesday morning; then to connect with the first train for Boston, arriving in B., in season for the first boat for Hingham.

Our party numbered nearly 60 persons, and all enjoyed the day as best suited our tastes. The day will long be remembered as one of those which happen too seldom in our lives, but which if oftener mingled with our days of labor, sorrow, trials and troubles, would lighten our pathway through this world, and our hearts would well up in love and gratitude to *Him*, who after creating the world and

all things therin, for the benefit, comfort and pleasure of man, pronounced all things which he had made to be *good* and proper for man to enjoy. Our party all returned at 6½ o'clock P. M., safely to their homes.

On Friday another party visited "Lobster Cove", Manchester, in company with Amity Lodge of F. and A. Masons of Danvers (of which Lodge, many of our best men are members), where the day was spent in a most agreeable manner, by singing, dancing, sailing, walking, and playing the several games now so popular "Croquet," "Aunt Sally," "Boring for Ile," &c., all enjoying themselves to their heart's content, and safely returning to their homes at a seasonable hour.

Our new schoolhouse is to be dedicated some day this week, with appropriate ceremonies; and on Thursday our town is to be honored by a visit of the Essex Institute, for whom we bespeak a warm reception and a general turnout by our citizens.

We have recently had an accession to our tradesman in the person of Mr. Charles Hanson, painter, who has been at work here the most of the summer, and who has moved his family and established himself in business. He has also opened a barber's shop in Gould's Block, where he may be found every evening and Sunday mornings. We bid him a hearty welcome among us, and hope that he may prosper in both branches of his business. J. A.

Salem Gazette, Aug. 28. 1868.

ALL ABOUT TOPSFIELD.

Last Thursday the Essex Institute went to Topsfield and had a field meeting, leaving Salem at a little before half past eight in an extra E. R. R. train for Danvers, thence taking the Danvers and Georgetown cars for Topsfield, where the large party of several hundred persons was landed with safety and punctuality. Numerous vehicles were in waiting at the depot, and, after the usual amount of time had been consumed in waiting about and getting "the lay of the land," the current of people began to flow in the direction of the Methodist church, in the basement of which the baskets were deposited, and the

good citizens of Topsfield had commenced preparation for a cordial and hospitable reception.

THE VARIOUS ATTRACTIONS

of the town were here well set forth by Nehemiah Cleaveland, Esq., who delivered the Topsfield second centennial address in 1850. Mr. Cleaveland spoke of the Indian name of the place, *Shenewemedy*, but said there were no mounds or other Indian vestiges in the town other than the stone chisels, hammers, etc., which are frequently dug up. The first settlers probably came from Salem and Ipswich. Salem village, incorporated as a parish in 1639, included a part of Topsfield. New Meadows, incorporated as a parish in 1643, covered a part of the same ground claimed by Salem, in consequence of which a warm dispute arose. Topsfield was incorporated in 1650. The witchcraft delusion was in 1692, and Mr. C. made allusion to the melancholy case of Mary Esty, which is so fully described in Mr. Upham's exhaustive history of this subject, and of which, some months since, we published an interesting compilation from this work, prepared by Mr. Cleaveland. After, speaking of the family names of Gould, Wildes, Porter, Towne, Peabody, Perkins, Cummings, Dwinneel, etc., still here and which have gone forth from Topsfield to populate the country, he alluded to the natural features of the place, which included the River hill, Great hill, Bear hill, Lake's hill, Ipswich river, Fish brook, the two mill brooks, and Pritchett's Pond, a mile and a half distant. We have here no localities bearing the common designation of the "Devil's Den, or the "Devil's Dishful," but allusion was made to an excavation some two miles away which was supposed to have been a copper mine, and to a quarry of disintegrated rock near by. The old houses spoken of were the Capen, Gould, Peabody, and Smith houses, of which perhaps none are more interesting than the first named. There are three burial grounds—the remains of Capen, Emerson, and Huntington, old ministers in the place being interred in the cemetery on the Georgetown road near by. Mr. C. also made allusion to the business pursued in the place.

When Mr. Cleaveland had concluded, the various parties set forth, some in search of discoveries interesting to science, others to see the place, a few to call upon personal friends, and all, no doubt, to find recreation and enjoyment. Some rode, others went on foot; some went to the pond, others to the copper mine, and others still climbed the surrounding hills to view the country around. Topsfield is

A PRETTY VILLAGE

and from no point, perhaps, are its quiet and picturesque qualities set forth to greater advantage than from the River hill. The main settlement is upon a level plain, sheltered upon every side by hills. It has two meeting houses, in neighborly proximity to each other, the spires of which, though the first object to attract attention upon entering town, are not so high as some of the surrounding elevations. Its houses have a neat and well cared for appearance. Some of them partake of the modern type, and bear the impress of business success on the part of their owners. The Cleaveland estate presents, perhaps, the most striking appearance, and the family mansion looks as if it might impart to its inmates all the solid comfort of an old English residence. There are two groceries, one kept by Mr. Kimball, near the depot, and the other by Mr. B. P. Adams, who has been an obliging Postmaster these many years and whose latch-string has long been within the welcome grasp of numerous Salem friends. We think (and ought to know for certainty,) that Mr. Adams once kept the old tavern in the days when the Newburyport Turnpike was more of an institution than it is now. This tavern was on the site of the present estate of the late Daniel Perkins (father of the Salem photograph artist, Mr. E. K. Perkins,) and what there is left of it still does faithful service in the capacity of a barn.

Though Topsfield is eminently a farming town, the manufacture of shoes is carried on here successfully and somewhat extensively. Messrs. Charles Herrick & Co. are extensive manufacturers and have a large and impos-

ing establishment in the centre of the village. Messrs. Bailey, Saunders & Co., and Joseph Towne, also, conduct the same business; while Mr. William Gallup makes a speciality of finishing the bottoms of all the shoes manufactured in town, by horse power. In addition to this, Messrs. Leach and Wilson devote attention to making farm wagons and vehicles in that line.

Perhaps there is no one man in Topsfield, however, having more business irons in the fire and at the same time giving them all good attention, than Mr. Ariel H. Gould, whose face is as familiar about the Salem Market, as household words. Mr. Gould is a butcher and a farmer. He has a remarkably fine collection of pigs, fifteen of which, littered last fall, and fed upon nothing but offal present an appearance that may well challenge competition. He has other large collections, in different pens, all of which might safely compete for a cattle-show premium, including a sow with ten pigs ten days old; another with five pigs; another with ten littered that very day; and still another with ten six days old. He must have seventy or eighty pigs in all. Mr. Gould supplies meat at wholesale and retail, and keeps fourteen horses to carry it out. For a period of three months he slaughters 500 sheep and lambs per week, and one or two beef cattle daily, his stock costing him \$3000 or \$4000 per week. In addition to all this, Mr. G. carries on four farms, including that of the Essex Agricultural Society. This year he cut 200 tons of hay, and had 15 acres of rye on a single piece.

Among the many hills in which Topsfield abounds, none are perhaps more sightly than

GREAT HILL.

This hill is well named, its massive dimensions fully justifying the title. Quite a number of the party visited it and toiled up its tedious ascent. From its summit a magnificent panorama of Topsfield and the surrounding country is spread out—the scenery presenting a picturesque combination of village, house dotted hills, woods and isolated settlements. As the eye sweeps the horizon, distant

mountains present their cloud-like outlines, while the settlements at Beverly, Wenham and Hamilton, and the white beach at Ipswich are plainly in sight.

The high lands and bald hills of the surrounding towns are conspicuous, the meeting-house at Linebrook parish within the limits of Ipswich, appearing conspicuously and apparently at the foot of one of them.

At the foot of Great hill, on the eastern side, there is quite a little village, and, not far from this locality, there are numerous hollows and remains of cellars where it is supposed the original settlers of Topsfield dwelt. This latter locality is called "the College," because the town officials and like dignities, are said to have resided there.

THE COPPER MINE.

The locality of this mine is in the south-west side of the town, near the Danvers and Middleton lines. In July or August, 1839 it was opened, with what was then thought, a fair promise of success, both as to the quantity and quality of the metal; but nothing came of the effort, and nothing remains of the mine more valuable than its traditional reputation. The story which led to the effort to work it in 1839, is substantially this. Seventy years before, an Englishman named Bunting, of a scientific turn and solitary habits, while rambling about, discovered evidences of copper ore, some of which was obtained by excavating. He made known his discovery to the owner of the land and entered into an agreement to work it at his own cost, giving the owner one-sixteenth of what was obtained. A vessel load was dug and shipped to England, but Bunting, who accompanied it, was taken sick and died, and no one knew what became of the ore. In process of time the affair was forgotten except by one or two of the "oldest inhabitants." Subsequently one of Bunting's descendants, finding the old agreement of his ancestor concerning the ore, and thinking there might be wealth in store, came to "the Colony of Massachusetts, North America," and found an old man in Topsfield who remembered the affair. There is no record however, that the young Englishman

saw a prospect sufficiently flattering to attempt to work the mine. But this tradition is supposed to be at the bottom of the attempt to work it thirty years ago.

THE CAPEN HOUSE.

This is one of the oldest houses alluded to by Mr. Cleaveland. It is situated close to the meeting-house, and was consequently visited by a large number of the party. Mr. Charles H. Holmes, the owner and occupant, was quite attentive in showing the visitors around and pointing out the peculiarities of the old place, which is now not far from two hundred years old. It is supposed to have been a garrison house in the days of Indian troubles, and, though not built by him, was soon owned by Mr. Capen, a minister of the place for a period of forty-two years. The house has been in the Emerson family, with which Mr. Holmes is connected, for upwards of one hundred and fifty years. It possesses all the peculiarities of the structures of the early period, and the visitors, when they contemplated the fact that the entire stud of the first story was required to accommodate Mr. Holmes from head to toe, were unanimous in the opinion that the original builders must have been unmindful of the dimensions that would require shelter under its roof two centuries afterward.

TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTIONS.

Topsfield, as Mr. Cleaveland remarked in the morning, has three burying grounds; one of which the cemetery on the Georgetown road we visited. Here lie buried three of the old ministers of the town, Capen, Emerson, and Huntington. To the Rev. ASAHEL HUNTINGTON, (father of our Clerk of Courts,) a granite monument is erected, on which are inscribed the names of other deceased members of the family. Here, too, repose the remains of THOMAS PERKINS, the eminent Salem merchant, who was associated with the late Joseph Peabody, and who bequeathed the Franklin Building to the Salem Marine Society. His modest tombstone bears this inscription:

In memory of THOMAS PERKINS, Esq., an eminent merchant. His industry, temperance and enterprise raised him from poverty to immense wealth, which he enjoyed without pride or ostentation, and dispensed with justice and benevolence. He was diligent and faithful in business, pure in his life and conversation; of a sound and vigorous mind, and of an integrity and fortitude, which neither prosperity or adversity could shake or corrupt. He was an affectionate son, a kind relative, and a firm friend. He was a Christian above sectarian prejudice, and a man above fear and without reproach. He was born in Topsfield, April 2, 1758, and died Nov. 24, 1830.

The inscription which denotes the resting-place of the remains of REV. JOSEPH CAPEN, who owned the old house above referred to, reads thus:—

Here lyes Buried the Body of the Reverend Mr. Joseph Capen A Faithful Minister of Christ who lived and ordained Pastor of ye Church in Topsfield 42 years & Departed this Life ye last day of June 1725, aged 66 years.

Dear Mr. Capen that reuered man, who did the Faith of Christ maintain. A Learned Man and Godly too. None will Denie this who him knew.

Mrs. Capen, his wife, is thus commemorated:—

Here lies Buried the Body of Mrs. Priscilla, ye wife of ye Rev. Joseph Capen, who died Oct, 18th, 1743, in the 86th year of her age.

If the poetry of Mr. Capen's inscription is of doubtful excellence, it is more striking, in this respect, than the following effort to immortalize Mr. DAVID BALCH:—

MEMENTO MORI.

This monument, as a mark of filial respect, is raised to the remembrance of DAVID BALCH, who bid adieu to the delusive and transitory scenes of this world on the 22 of July, 1812. Æ 59. Whose last dying words were, "To the war."

"Non ille pro caris amicis
Aut patria timidus perire."

Sweet Jesus was resigned to the
Father's will,
Indeed so was he who lies here still.

Mr. Balch died by suicide. In the Latin inscription above given, his eulogist aimed to convey to the world the idea that he was not afraid to die either for his dear friends or his country.

Another queer inscription is that upon a stone erected by Amos Lefavor, of a family of scattered Acadians, to the memory of MARY LEFAVOR, who died May 28, 1797, aged 74. It runs thus:—

“Reader pass on, ne’er waste your time
On bad biography and bitter rhyme;
For what I am, this cumberous clay ensures,
And what I was, is no affair of yours.”

There are many other things of interest connected with this town which might be named if our limits served. Not the least worthy of mention are:

THE MEN

who have here originated, either from birth or parentage. Among these may be named Judge Cummins; ex-Judge Perkins; A. W. Wildes, county commissioner for many years; Dr. Elisha Huntington, and his brother Asahel of Salem, son of the Rev. Asahel, the former minister here; John and E. L. Cleaveland; David Peabody; and the two Perkinses, one at the head of the High School in Lawrence, and the other of the High School in Salem.

With all the attractions and associations of the place, and the kind attentions of the citizens, the party found no difficulty in deriving pleasures from their rambles and knowledge of their good neighbors, who, at

THE COLLATION,

which took place at one o’clock in the basement of the Methodist Church, spared no efforts to promote the substantial comfort of the guests, providing meats, coffee and tea, with a liberal hand quite beyond what any member of the party could have reasonably hoped or desired.

THE DISCUSSIONS.

The meeting for discussions followed the dinner, commencing in the Methodist church, at about two o’clock.

Dr. Henry Wheatland, the President, presided. Mr. F. W. Putnam, as Secretary pro tem, read the record of the field meeting held in Marblehead, and announced the donations to the cabinets, and Mr. Hyatt, not having the donations to the library at hand, improved the time that would otherwise be occupied in announcing them, by making an appeal for old pamphlets, papers, and other relics.

THE PRESIDENT then introduced the discussions by saying that, after having had four field meetings in towns bordering on the sea-coast, we are today assembled in the geographical center of the county. It was in this town of Topsfield that the first fair of the Essex Agricultural Society was held, in 1820 or 1821, when Dr. Andrew Nichols of Danvers delivered the address. It was here, also, that the first meeting for the formation of the Essex County Natural History Society was held at the tavern on the Newburyport Turnpike.

MR. SAMUEL P. FOWLER of Danvers, who was called upon to speak of the plants that had been collected, said that he had made trees and shrubs his speciality, and would be glad to speak of these had there been any among the collections. He alluded to the circumstances of the early formation of the Natural History Society, having been one of its original members.

Mr. F. W. PUTNAM described his experience while on his way to the pond, having picked up some interesting zoological specimens under the fallen trunk of an old pine tree, consisting of spiders, two or three species of centipedes, (to which class the common earwigs belong,) and crustaceans represented by the sow-bug, besides specimens of several kinds of snails. Three species of salamanders, which, like man, belong to the vertebrata, were also collected under the log. On turning over a stone, a tree toad jumped forth. This animal, which he exhibited to the audience, will change its color, like the chameleon, and has the power of walking up a pane of glass as easily as a fly. Mr. Putman described the large yellow spider, of which he had several specimens, which has the power, on the approach of an intruder, of making its web vibrate so

that you cannot see it. He also explained the structure of spiders generally, which are interesting, as compared with other insects, among other reasons, because their eyes are simple and upon the top of the head, and he described the interesting process by which they spin their thread. He likewise spoke of the beetles found on the potato vines here, which are not, as has been feared, the much dreaded Colorado potato bug. Mr. Putnam exhibited the dry cast skin of a black snake, which is turned as it is thrown off, and, exhibiting a collection of Indian implements that had been presented, proceeded to speak of their peculiarities and uses.

Among these collections, thus presented to the Institute, were a small stone gouge by J. W. Batchelder; club-stone, gouge, and small axe, by J. Arthur Lamson; a large stone gouge by Z. Gould. These were all found in Topsfield where the donors reside. Dr. Charles Palmer presented, from George Caldwell of Ipswich, seven stone implements, among them a singular and unique specimen, and a fine corn-smasher and peculiar form of a small gouge. Eben H. Lake, of Topsfield, placed on the table for exhibition, several stone implements.

Mr. NEHEMIAH CLEAVELAND, during Mr. Putnam's remarks, asked whether the common house adder was a venomous reptile; to which the latter replied that the rattlesnake was the only venomous snake found in this locality. He was aware that the house adder and the water adder were called venomous, and it is true they will show fight and bite on provocation; but they are not venomous, having no fang or poison about them.

Mr. ALPHEUS HYATT, though physical geology was not the speciality which engrossed his investigations, spoke of the feldspar, quartz, and mica which compose the rocks of Salem and vicinity, and alluding to the mass of disintegrated rock near by, inferred, from its northwest dip, that it was a rock in place and was not transported there as had been supposed, by glaciers during the drift period. He thought this rotten rock might be occasioned by the presence of iron, the rust of which has a disintegrating

effect. He said we know nothing, comparatively, of the geology of New England compared with that of the States west of the Hudson; and explained the glacial theory, in tracing the cause of the formation of gravel beds. In describing his collection of animals at the pond, he spoke of the bryzoa, or moss animals, which inhabit the surface of floating boards and the stems of the lilies. He also described the club moss, in its geological relations as a representative of ancient life. In answer to a question, Mr. Hyatt illustrated, on the blackboard, the probable process of the formation of the North American continent.

The President, after alluding to his faithful and arduous services during the rebellion, introduced Gen. WILLIAM SCHOULER, who responded by saying that he had been amused and instructed at what he had heard, and would gladly listen to others, but being ignorant of science, and the subjects treated of being so different from his customary pursuits, he would be unable to edify them by any remarks. It was his first visit to Topsfield, and his first meeting with the Institute; but he trusted that it would not be the last.

DR. JEREMIAH SPOFFORD, of Groveland remarked, on being called upon, that he had the same excuse as General Schouler, but, as he could remember farther back than any one present, he would give them some historical facts. He then gave a genealogical history of the Capen family, and a description of the house occupied by them, now some two hundred years old. He said that he was somewhat puzzled to know why they built the second story with a projection and also with a higher stud than the lower.

Mr. CHARLES H. HOLMES explained the projection as being the style of architecture prevailing in Holland, whence the builders of this house emigrated; and said that it was out of respect to their Dutch proclivities that they introduced the practice here.

Dr. S. thought that explanation might do pretty well, but he wanted to know why the Dutch built in that style.

Mr. WILLIAM B. TRASK, of Dorchester, editor of the Genealogical Register, read the inscription on the tomb

stone of Rev. Mr. Capen for whom the Capen house is named, and said he had in his possession, two love letters of John Capen, who bought a bonnet for his "gal."

Mr. SAMUEL TODD, of Topsfield, differed from Mr. Hyatt in his opinion that the disintegrated rock was an original bed. He had much experience among the rocks in this vicinity, and said you could not dig anywhere in the village more than from nine to twelve feet without getting water. This, with the fact that he had taken sand from under parts of this bed, led him to believe that this rock was deposited here, and that the drift period was the agency that formed the town of Topsfield.

Mr. HYATT complimented Mr. Todd, by saying he wished the Institute could meet with more of such men at their meetings, and also remarked that it was rare to find so many men as they had met with here, well read in geology. Nevertheless, he was confident that Mr. Todd was in error in his supposition that this mass drifted hither, and adhered to his proposition that this rock, in its general formation, conformed to every rule which marked the fixed rocks of adjacent localities.

The subject was continued briefly, by Mr. Nehemiah Cleaveland, who coincided with the views advanced by Mr. Hyatt regarding the character of this deposit.

On motion of Mr. SAMUEL P. FOWLER of Danvers, the following vote was passed:—

Whereas, in view of the almost total lack of interest felt in the preservation of ancient buildings.

Resolved. That the thanks of the audience are due to Mr. Charles H. Holmes, for so well preserving the house alluded to this afternoon.

Resolved. That we will do all in our power to build up a public sentiment in this direction.

On motion of Mr. T. M. STIMPSON, of Peabody, warmly seconded by Mr. E. N. WALTON of Salem, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That the thanks of the Essex Institute be presented to Messrs. Richard Phillips, Jr., Nehemiah Cleaveland, B. P. Adams, Ezra Towne and Chas. J. Peabody, Mrs. A. H. Gould, Mrs. Jacob Foster, Mrs. Samuel

Adams, Mrs. Richard Ward, Mrs. T. K. Leach, Mrs. Richard Phillips, Miss Abbie Cleaveland, and other friends who have contributed to render this meeting so interesting and profitable. Also to the Methodist Society, for the use of their church.

The meeting then adjourned.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 4, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—A flag-raising for Seymour and Blair took place in Topsfield on Thursday evening last. The Rowley Brass Band furnished music, and speeches were made by Gen. Devereux, Hon. Wm. D. Northend, H. O. Wiley, Esq., and others.

In my last communication an error occurred which I wish to rectify. It should have read, Mr. Hanson has fitted up a room as a barber's shop in Reed's building, and the Seymour Club have established their Headquarters in Gould's Block.

Religious.—Sunday, Sept. 6th, the Rev. Wm. D. Bridge administered the holy ordinance of baptism to twenty-four persons, four by immersion and twenty by sprinkling, and admitted twenty-eight to the communion of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and the Rev. Anson McCloud baptised by sprinkling, five persons, and admitted them to the Congregational Church. Nearly all of whom were converted during the revival last winter.

On Tuesday, Sept. 15, at 5 o'clock P. M., there is to be a grand Republican Rally and Flag Raising, and all citizens of Topsfield and vicinity desiring the election of Grant and Colfax, are cordially invited to attend. Able speakers will be present and address the assembly.

At 7½ o'clock a mass meeting will be held in Union Hall, to ratify the nomination of Grant and Colfax, and Claflin and Tucker.

Addresses will be delivered by Gen. Cogswell, A. C. Goodell, Hon. A. A. Abbott, and other distinguished speakers.

Music on both occasions by Hall's Boston Brass Band.

Then rally round the flag boys,
Rally once again.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 11, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—*Grand Republican Demonstration.*—The Republicans of Topsfield threw a fine flag to the breeze, on Tuesday afternoon of last week, in the presence of a large concourse who greeted its unfurling with enthusiastic cheering, the band giving the Star Spangled Banner. C. H. Holmes, Esq., President of the Grant Club, made a short poetical address, and then introduced Gen. Cogswell of Salem, who, was followed in short and pithy speeches by Rev. Mr. Thompson of Boston, and Warren Porter, Esq., of Danvers. The meeting subsequently adjourned to meet at Union Hall, at 7.30.

At 7.15 a procession was formed in front of the Topsfield House, under the marshalship of Major N. Conant, which marched to the hall, serenading, en route, Messrs. Byam, Shute and Mandell, who had splendidly decorated their residences and grounds with flags and lanterns.

At the hall, which was crowded to overflowing, stirring addresses were made by Gen. Cogswell and A. C. Goodell, Esq., of Salem; Rev. Mr. Thompson of Boston, and Samuel Todd, Esq., of Topsfield.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 18, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—Mr. Humphrey Clarke, eighty-five years of age, went out Tuesday morning of last week with his son and grandson, into his cornfield, to bind and shock his corn, and while they were at work a little distance from him, without a noticeable groan or struggle he fell dead, holding a few shocks of corn in his hand. He was a man of unusual worth, of unspotted name, and respected by all.

Salem Gazette, Sept. 25, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—Mrs. Benjamin P. Adams devoted one day each week during the war to work for the soldiers, and since its termination she has appropriated the same amount of time for the benefit of the freedmen. With her own hands she has made more than six hundred garments from new cloth, for these charitable purposes and performed a great many other labors of love and mercy, although during the whole period she has been an invalid

and not able to attend church service for several years.—
Lawrence American.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 2, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—On the evening of Oct. 2, Gen. Butler addressed the citizens of this town, and was received with marked demonstrations of enthusiasm. He was escorted to the hall by a procession formed by Capt. George Batchelder and Lieut. Cassey and some of the houses were cheerfully illuminated. Gen. Butler addressed a large audience and was listened to with interest and attention to the close.

MR. C. H. LAKE'S FRUIT TREE NURSERY, in Topsfield, is in some respects one of the richest in the State. In apples it is especially noticeable. We have had a slight opportunity of tasting its variety, through a box of specimens which he has sent to us, including not less than ten or a dozen of his own seedlings, some of them of great promise. Others were of such standard sorts as the Hubbardston Nonesuch, Seek-no-further, Ladies' Nonesuch, Fall Pippin, Kilham Hill, Luscomb, Gravenstein, Ramsdell's Sweet, Detroit Red, Fall Greening, &c. Most noticeable of the whole, perhaps, was the Governor Bradstreet apple. This magnificent apple, now being introduced by Mr. Lake, was originated on the Gov. Bradstreet farm, in Topsfield, from which it derives its name. The fruit is of the largest size, rather flattened, bright red and yellow striped, and of first quality, being a regular and productive bearer, good grower, making a handsome tree, early to come into fruit, and of best keeping quality, ripening in mid winter and keeping through May. It is a valuable acquisition to every orchard, being the only *sweet* apple to be relied upon for productiveness. Mr. Lake has scions for sale, on reasonable terms.

In Topsfield Oct. 10th, Capt. William Cummings, 80 years, 9 months. Through a period of years, amounting to nearly half a century, he lived a pious, faithful, devoted life; his last few years which were years of much bodily suffering he bore with Christian resignation; he walked by faith, he communed with God. Often would he say what could I do with such severe distress if I had no Sav-

iour to support me. But what are my sufferings compared to what Jesus suffered for me. He earnestly entreated all to seek salvation and to meet him in Heaven, saying it is finished, my work is done, I am going home. May his last appeal and his dying prayer in his family's behalf prove effectual in their present and future salvation.

Be like his my last repose,
Like his my last reward.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 9, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.—The Democrats of Topsfield had a grand demonstration last Friday evening. Many of the residences were illuminated, and the Topsfield Seymour and Blair Club paraded with torches and a band of music. The Seynour and Blair Club of Danvers with torches were also present. After marching through the town the largest hall in the place was filled to overflowing, and the people were addressed by E. C. Bailey of Boston.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 23, 1868.

The Topsfield Grant Club had 46 men in line at the Republican mass meeting and parade in Boston on Wednesday.

Salem Gazette, Oct. 30, 1868.

TOPSFIELD.

In driving into Topsfield, one passes through a corner of Boxford territory, leaving Ipswich river to the right. A few houses are dotted here and there along the way—some have shoemakers' shops near, and others being more conspicuously the farm houses of thrifty cultivators of the soil. The modest place of Jos. N. Pope bore the emblem of the patriotic instincts of its honest and worthy owner during the war, causing passing travellers to remark "they are Union folks there." The farm of the late Dr. Sawyer (what an enthusiastic Taylor man he was twenty years ago!) is upon the road and is now carried on by his son Thomas, who has, in times past, exhibited some fine stock of the equestrian order at the agricultural shows. Topsfield itself has been too recently described in these columns to need more than a passing notice now. We doubt if

there is a more picturesque village in New England, as viewed from "the River Hill" and other surrounding eminences. Its dwellings are trig and well cared for, and the railroad trains to and from the metropolis, pass through its very centre, puffing and blowing with a business air. Topsfield was a good deal disturbed over the congressional rumpus, but is gradually settling down into its accustomed ways of peace and quietness. Business flourishes here much after the usual fashion—shoe-manufacturing, butchering and farming being the principal pursuits. John Parkinson, an honest citizen, has established himself in the tailoring business at his house, displaying, at the window, a fashion plate of metropolitan aspect, which we trust holds out irresistible inducements to the town's fashionable folk.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 4, 1868.

In 1818 Joseph Beckford and Sarah Gray were living in Topsfield and were married. There being no settled minister in Topsfield, they went to Middleton and were married by Mr. Hubbard. They afterward removed to Wenham where he was sexton for many years. They celebrated their 50th anniversary Dec. 10, 1868.

Salem Gazette, Dec. 15, 1868.

(To be continued.)

ESSEX COUNTY QUARTERLY COURT RECORDS
RELATING TO TOPSFIELD.

ABSTRACTED BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

Daniel Fairefield v. Zacheus Gould. Trespass.—*Dec. 29, 1640.**

Zacheus Gould v. Mr. Adam Otley, Richard Sadler and Joseph Armetage. Debt.—*July 12, 1642.*

Zacheus Gould v. Nathaniel Tyler. Debt.—*July 12, 1642.*

Zacheus Goold, Thomas Putnam and James Huberd v. Mr. Adam Ottler, Jos. Armetage and Richard Sadler. About a boat. "Zacheus Gould his man's tyme," etc.—*Dec. 27, 1642.*

Mr. Edward Tomlins deposed about a mare and two oxen in execution against Mr. Gould, Putnam and James Hubbert.—*June 27, 1643.*

August 13th 1643. Knowe all men by these p^rnts that I William Hughs of New Meadowes have demised granted bargained and sould for divers goode causes and considerations mee there unto movinge but more especially for th[e] [s]ome of thirty eight pounds in hand pd the receipt whereof I acknowledge as alsoe for the assurance of the some of eighteen pounds more to bee pd to mee the sd William my heires executors administrators or assigns at or before the fourteenly day of october next ensewinge the date hereof, have demised graunted assigned set over and sould unto Richard Barker of Quichichock, 3 yearlinge hifers 2 yerling bulls at twelve pounds ten shillings twoe kine at tenne pounds 4 calves at 3^l one

*The date at the end of each paragraph or case is the date of the session of the Court.

house and house lot of 7 acres broken [] and twoe vnbroake, with all the corne mee there vnto belonginge as alsoe twelve loads of hay with all the straw of the Corne there grow at the farme of M^r. Paine where the sd William now lives at tenne pounds all these above sd pticulars it may bee lawfull for the sd Richard his heires or assignes, to sell assigne or dispose of as his owne pp right in witness whereof I have heere vnto set may hand. Willm Hughes [seal] Test. Adam Ottley John Huges.—*Dec. 26, 1643.*

William Tayler, servant to Zacheus Goold, to be severely whipped for stealing, and to make double restitution.—*Dec. 26, 1643.*

Zacheus Gould witnessed the will of Hugh Churchman of Lynn, dated June 4, 1640 and proved the same at a court held July 9, 1644. The original will is preserved in the Court Files. This is the only signature of Zaccheus Gould known at the present time.

Zaccheus Curtis fined 20s. for rash and unadvised "cuming in and to have sworne falcelie."—*Jan. 3, 1644-5.*

Wm. Hughes v. Joseph Armetag. Case of a cow. With consent of Joseph Armetage and Gerret Spencer, defendant shall have three pounds and the benefit of the dead beast.—*July 8, 1645.*

William Paine v. William Hughs.—*July 8, 1645.*

Zacheus Gould v. William Perkins of Waymouth, Debt.—*July 8, 1645.*

Zacheus Gould v. William Taylor of Gloster. Jno. Newmarsh swore that he served the warrant. John Snooke testified that "Goodman Gould went up with me." Isaac Parker said that four of the nine cows were heifers. Jno. Denison said that Goodman Hughs was willing to accept four of the heifers for cows.—*July 8, 1645.*

William Hughes was of Lynn when he was presented for not supporting the ministry July 3, 1646.

Zacheus Curtiss presented for taking tobacco contrary to order. Not sufficiently proved. For taking in the open street in Salem, Jarvis Gafford, witness.—*March 2, 1647-8.*

Frances Bates fined or to be publicly whipped for provoking his fellow servant to disobedience and scandals on

his master and mistress. Lanslott Granger bound for payment of the fine. Frances Bates did wrong unto Symon T——.—*Sept. 26, 1648.*

Francis Dane v. Zacheus Gould. Bond of arbitration.—*March 27, 1649.*

Humferey Broadstreet v. Zacheus Gold. For taking away and detaining his horse, being legally demanded by his assignee.—*Dec. 25, 1649.*

Richard Shatswell v. Zacheus Goold. For taking away a stray mare. Verdict for plaintiff.—*March 26, 1650.*

Ceciley Redaway v. William Scuddr and his wife. Defamation. Wit: Zacheus Curtiss and wife, Ellin Mascall, Fransis Perrie and wife and Cicilly Rudaway.—*June 26, 1650.*

Zacheus Gould v. William Grigges, Debt.—*June 27, 1650.*

Zacheus Gold v. Joseph Fowler. Slander. For saying that he stole a horse. Verdict for plaintiff, 10li.—*Dec. 31, 1650.*

William Howard was chosen clerk of the writs for Topsfield.—*Jan. 2, 1650-1.*

Lt. William Howard, agent for the executor of John Cross, deceased v. Roger Shaw. Debt.—*June 24, 1651.*

Zacheus Gould took the oath of fidelity.—*Sept. 30, 1651.*

Mr. Symon Broadstreet v. Lt. Will. Howard. Trespass. For worrying hogs.—*March 30, 1652.*

William Howard, attorney of Mr. Rich. Leadar v. Georg Halsall. Debt. For 700li.—*March 30, 1652.*

William Howard, attorney of Mr. Richard Leader v. George Halsall, Robert Nash and Thomas Hawkins. Forfeiture of a bond for non-appearance at the last court held at Dover.—*March 30, 1652.*

Frances Bates disclaimed all interest in the daughter of Thomas Moulton. Charges of the court to be determined by William Bartholmew, Sacheus Goold and Joseph Medcalfe.—*March 30, 1652.*

Writ: Mr. William Payne v. Daniell Clarke, for forfeiture of a farm sold to him by said Payne for non-payment;

dated Sept. 20, 1652; attached the farm of the defendant.—*Sept 28, 1652.*

Writ: William Paine v. Daniell Clarke; dated 20: 7: 1652; for shop account; attached corn and hay.—*Sept. 28, 1652.*

William Goodhue of Ipswich under date of March 1, 1653, leased "his farme" for 14 years to Robert Wallis and William Smyth both of Ipswich. They to "breake vp twelf acres of ground and croscutt it and harrow it and allsoe a 6 accer lott of meddow beyond gravelly brook as allsoe a parcel of medow which lyeth in the medow in the thick woods att the vpper end of that medow Mr. Vincent haueing a parcell att the lower end, and the said William Goodhue is too build them a hous and a barne the hous thirty foott long with too chimneys in the midst and the barne fortty foott long with a leantoo att the one end the sayd barne twenty foott wid and allsoe foure bullocks four yeare old a peace for the which the said Robert Wallis and William Smith is too fence the farm in for the first yeares rent and afterward too paye twenty pownd a yeare for the terme of fourteen yeares."—*Court Files, Vol. II, leaf 153.*

Lieut. [William] Howard served on the jury of trials, April 12, 1653.

William Howard of Topsfield was chosen an arbitrator between William Paine of Ipswich, merchant, and Edward Gilman of Exeter, to meet at Mr. Pendleton's house at Piscataqua.—*March 1, 1653-4.*

John Fullar v. Issack Comings. Trespass. For taking away a heifer. Judgment for plaintiff.

Job Bishop testified that John Fuller, having brought four young cattle, three bulls and a brown heifer to Goodman Jacobs one morning, and deponent being there also, he asked one of Goodman Jacobs' household whose cattle they were and learned that they were Goodman Fuller's. Late in the year he saw the same cattle with "our" oxen in Goodman Jacobs' pasture and took notice of the red-dish brown hair on their backs and their brown ears.

John Lee testified that he recognized the heifer by the color, and by her off ear, which had been frost-bitten, whereby a scale was on that ear, making it shorter than

the other. There was a dent in the ear when the scale came off. This heifer had been daily in his sight.

John Shepard testified that this was the same heifer that John Fuller brought to his master Jacobs, also that Goodman Cummins went to "our house" one morning and asked if they had seen a stray heifer. Cummins looked at this heifer and said it was not his, and he was afraid the wolves had got his heifer.

John Avery testified that he, dwelling with Goodman Cumins the last year, knew a brown yearling heifer which Isaac Cumins said he bought of Mr. Simond's son. It was a dark brown heifer with horns growing forward and the points of the horns turning inward. It was marked on the under side of the off ear by a piece cut out about two inches deep.

Matthew Whepple testified that he saw Goodman Cumins and Goodman Starkwether and his man drive away the heifer from in front of Goodman Fuller's barn, and the latter asked deponent to bear witness to the same.

William Clarke testified that, living in John Fuller's house, the latter had a brown heifer which he thought had been hurt and he asked deponent to catch her that he might look at her. They found a great scab on her off ear, and deponent asked what was the matter with her, and Fuller replied that she was frost bitten. He further testified that coming to the mill this winter, he met said Fuller and the constable going to replevin this heifer and later in the day, on his way home, saw them again with the heifer before them. She knew the way home well enough because she kept a pace before them, and the heifer that said deponent saw was the same heifer that he helped John Fuller catch the winter before.

John Vargison deposed that this brown heifer was the heifer that John Fuller brought to his master Jacobs, etc.

Umphrey Griffen testified as to the marks on the heifer.

All the foregoing testimony was sworn in Ipswich court, 28: 1: 1654, Robert Lord, clerk.—*March 28, 1654.*

Henry Bachelour [of Ipswich] discharged and his wife to be admonished.

Joseph Medcalfe deposed, 30: 1: 1654, concerning the wife of Henry Batchiler, that he met her near his farm holding up her coats in an unseemly manner, some pigs following her. She said she did not know whose they were. A boy of Goodman Symonds also told him that he saw her upon a Lord's day in his master's lot, etc.

James How, Thomas Medcalfe and Francis Bates deposed that Goodwife Batchiler had several times said that some of Goodman Medcalf's and Goodman Howes' cattle would die, some would escape and others would live, and it came to pass as she said, although they all seemed well when she told it.

John How deposed that being at Goodman Batchiler's house about the time his father came to his farm, etc.

James How, John Perly and John How and his wife deposed that during the same summer the herd of cattle that Goodman How kept were exceedingly troublesome and acted in a strange and hideous manner several times, as on a Lord's day morning "all the whole heard Brake out of a fenced yeard and rann with such violence that it amazed all that looked out after them makeing a hideous noyse lyke thunder with ratling of cheines to theyr seeming but could p noe meanes be stopped." Also when they were counted there would always be one over. Further Goodman Batchiler went to Goodman How to borrow some draught cattle, but his wife said she was unwilling to do so because she feared there was some evil practice in it. While they were talking Goodwife Batchiler appeared and asked them why they were speaking of her and seemed very angry, all of which made them marvel. James How, going to Rowley to load hay, put on half a load, with six bullocks to haul it, but coming home the cattle acted strangely, lying down often and at length would not draw the empty cart, etc.—*March 28, 1654.*

George Bunker of Topsfield, sworn freeman before Right Worpll. John Endecott, 17: 2: 1655.—*Dec. 2, 1654.*

Isaack Commings and Lieut. William Howard served on the grand jury and Edmond Towne served on the jury of trials at Ipswich.—*Sept. 25, 1655.*

Jacob Towne served on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Mar. 25, 1656.

Topsfield ordered to have a pound and stocks by the next court.—*March 25, 1656.*

Zacheus Gould presented for absence from meeting on the Lord's day. Proved. Zacheas Goold of Rowley presented Mar.—, 1656, for not frequenting the public ordinance upon the Sabbath days. Witness grand jurymen of Rowley.—*April 24, 1656.*

Thomas Dorman of Topsfield discharged from training.—*June 24, 1656.*

William Evans served on the grand jury and Francis Peabody on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Sept. 30, 1656.

William Morris v. Evan Morice. Slander.—*Sept. 30, 1656.*

William Evans and wife Agnes v. Evan Morice. Slander.—*Sept 30, 1656.*

Evin Moris of Topsfield, presented Sept. 30, 1656, for reviling the ordinance of God, and such as are in the church fellowship, "saying when some was together keeping a day of Humiliation that they were Howling like wolues and lifting up there paws for there Children saying the gallows were built for members and members' Children and if there had beene noe members of Churches there would haue beene noe need of gallows." Wit: James How, jr., John How, John Pearley and Mary How.

Daniell Clarke v. Allan Perley. For non-performance of work by his son. Withdrawn.—*Sept. 30, 1656.*

Daniell Clarke v. Mr. William Bartholmew. For not supporting a division fence.—*Sept. 30, 1656.*

Daniell Clarke v. Mr. William Bartholmew. For a heifer promised to his wife.—*Sept. 30, 1656.*

Thomas Dorman fined for not warning the freemen to meet to nominate magistrates.—*Sept. 30, 1656.*

Zacheus Gould v. Thomas Cutler. For not paying to Mr. Henry Barthollmew 50s. for said Gold and not delivering a mare according to agreement.—*Nov. 25, 1656.*

Isaac Comings of Ipswich prosecuted Zerubable Phillips for breaking into his house. Phillips did not appear. Mr. Nathaniell Rogers, Humphry Griffin, Jon. Fuller, John

Caldwell, John Comings and Wm. Smith bound for his appearance to the treasurer of the county. Bond forfeited.—*Nov. 25, 1656.*

Thomas Dorman and William Howard served on the jury of trials at Ipswich, March 31, 1657.

John Fullar and Mr. Nathaniell Rogers, assignees of Zerobabell Phillips v. Isaack Comings. Debt.

Zerobabell Phillips assigned to Mr. Nathaniel Rogers and others a debt due from Isaac Cumings, sr., and a cow in the hands of John Rise of Dedham, as security for said Phillips' appearance at court; dated Oct.—, 1656. Wit: Daniel Denison.

Writ: John Fuller and Mr. Nathaniell Rogers, assignee of Zerobabell Phillips v. Isaac Commings; served by Edward Browne, marshal, March 23, 1656-7.

Thomas Averieell deposed that he heard Goodman Cummins acknowledge that he owed 5li. 2s. 6d. to Zerobabell Phillips for his son Isaac, to be paid in wheat.

On 15: 8: 1656, Zerobabell Phillips acknowledged that he owed Rob. Crosse, and was to deliver the debt in wheat or barley at Mr. Barthellmue's in Ipswich. Will. Perkins and John Cummins witnessed receipt of Rob. Crosse.

Bondsmen of Zerobabell Phillips empower John Fuller to bring suit for him; signed by William Smyth, Nathanel Rogers, Humphrey (his mark) Griffin, John Fuller and John Caldwell, Mar. 30, 1657.

John Cumins deposed that being with John Fuller and the other eight at the house of Zarobabill Phillips, Cumins heard them say that they had appointed his father to pay some money to Mr. Hubbard, etc. Sworn at Ipswich court.

Thomas Averell deposed that before Zerobabell came to answer before Mr. Symonds, Robert Crose met Zerobabell and the latter had given power of attorney to Corporal Androse, etc.—*Mar. 31, 1657.*

John Fuller v. Isaack Comings, appeal from judgment of Mr. Symonds.

Reasons of appeal by John Fuller, Mar. 25, 1657. Received by Samuel Symonds.

William Moare, sr., deposed that he had seen ten or twelve of John Fuller's hogs and shoats in the Indian corn of Isaac Cummings, sr. John Fuller's woman servant told him the number.

Isaack Cummings, jr., deposed that his father sent him to tell about the damage.

Richard Nicolls and John Leigh, sr., deposed about hogs in corn. Thomas Preston deposed that he was keeping sheep on the common, and John Fuller's son was keeping his father's swine there. Goodman Cummings' girl told him that Mr. Hubbert's horse had broken down the fence.

Edward Bragg deposed that he had Indian corn, near Goodman Cummings, and in the ground bought of Will. Story toward the forty acres, etc. When the fence was broken by Mr. Hubbert's horse, deponent's wife and children guarded the place and also sent to Goodman Cummings' house and the latter's girl and other children guarded it till night. Also one of his own cows went through Mr. Saltonstall's fence into the corn next the calves pasture fence, about thirty rods from the corn in question, after wheat harvest.

John Ringe also deposed. Will. Moare and Samuel Podd appraised the corn which was damaged. Ephraim Fellows deposed that going to town he saw cattle near the fence between Goodman Bennett's and Goodman Cummings, and a white horse with them, etc. Widow Haffild deposed that the fence near the gate at Thomas Burnam's was much out of repair. Katherine Brimmengen deposed that her master, John Fuller, had all his hogs yoked and ringed in the spring, etc. Nathaniel Lummax deposed that Fuller's hogs came often to his master Tomson's, etc. Samuel Heires deposed as to what part of the fence was to be maintained by Mr. Rogers, Mrs. Hubbard, Henry Bennet and Goodman Cummings. Thomas Low deposed that John Fuller's wife owned some of the hogs. John Choate, Ralph Dix, Samuel Younglove, jr., and Thomas Low deposed about the hogs.—*March 31, 1657.*

Mr. William Perkins v. Jacob Towne, in behalf of the town of Topsfield. For detaining his maintenance due to

said Perkins for his labors in the ministry. Withdrawn.—*March 31, 1657.*

William Howard was one of the four arbitrators in the case between Richard Kent and Lancelot Granger, a Newbury case. Zacheus Gould also signed the award dated Dec. 10, 1656.

George Bunker was allowed two shillings and six pence for his wife's witness fees.—*March 31, 1657.*

Andrew Creeke fined for lying.—*April 9, 1657.*

John Perley ordered to be whipped or fined for lying.

George Abbott, aged about forty years, testified that on Oct. 3 last, John Perley and John How came to Andover, Perley upon a colt and How upon a mare, both apparently tired. Perley said he had bought the colt but lately, and had not fully broken him, but hoped to do it this "voyage."

Thomas Farnum, aged about twenty-four years, and Steven Osgood, aged about eighteen years, testified that the colt was the bay that Anthony Potter brought from Andover, and that the mare was Goodman Coop's.—*April 9, 1657.*

Mr. Zacheus Gould acknowledged judgment to Mr. Henry Bartholomew.—*June 30, 1657.*

Francis Peabody served on the grand jury and Thomas Browning on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Sept. 29, 1657.

John Redington, chosen by Topsfield as clerk of the writs, was confirmed.—*Sept. 29, 1657.*

Ned Acockett, an Indian, acknowledged judgment to Zacheus Gould.—*Nov. 19, 1657.*

Thomas Dorman served on the jury of trials at Ipswich March 30, 1658.

Daniel Clark acknowledged judgment to Mr. Symon Bradstreet.—*March 30, 1658.*

Robert Andrews and John Comings of Topsfield took the oath of fidelity.—*May 6, 1658.*

Ann Comings fined for lying.—*May 6, 1658.*

William Howard was of Boston on June 28, 1658 when Mr. William Paine of Boston appointed him his attorney.

Inventory of the estate of George Buncker, of Topsfield, lately deceased. Amount, 300li. 14s. Debts, 156li. 9s.

The widow, Jane Buncker, appointed administratrix; and the estate to be divided among said widow, son William Buncker, Elizabeth Buncker, Mary Buncker, Ann Buncker and Martha Buncker, all under twenty-one years of age.

Inventory, dated, 29: 3: 1658, taken by Thomas Howlett, Francis Peabody, Richod (his mark) Hutten and Abraham Redington: For working Catil, 36li.; Cowes hefors and Caves, 16li.; One Ewe and two Lambs, 2li.; a Cart and plowes and tackling, 3li.; swine, 2li.; gune and sword, 2li.; bras and pouter, 3li.; tabul and Chares and traves, tubes and barils, 2li. 3s.; Cowes pelt, skins and wheelles, a Rop and bandalers, 2li.; beding and linan and wolan and thirteen pound Cotan wol, 8li.; waring Clothing, 3li. 6s.; the Crop of Corne upon the ground, 9li.; dets due to him upon bil, 4li. 11s.; housin and land as namli medo and uplande, the farme Consisting of three hondered and twelve acres more or les, there be more duiblin dets that do not yet apere what tha are; By John Andros, 4li.; by Frances Vsselton, 3li. 14s.; total, 300li. 14s. The estate is debt to severall psons following: To Mr. Tuttle as by bill & otherwise, 9li. 18s. 2d.; Mr. Joseph Juit, 2li. 8d.; Capt. Pendleton, 80li.; Willm. Howard, by bill, 24li.; to the worshipfull Mr. Bradstreet, 22 bushils wheat, 4li. 15s. Mr. Robert Payne, 2li. 2s. 7d.; Goodman Moulton, 30s. 9d. & Robt. Andrew, 14s. 4d., 2li. 5s. 4d.; Mr. Curwin 12li. 11s.; Robt. Stiles, 6li., Robt. Pearse, 10s., 6li. 10s.; Mr. Purkings, 50s. and Goodman Gouldsmyth 18s., 3li. 8s.; Mr. Willm. Paine, 4li.; Thomas Rootes, 2li. 14s. 10d. Richard Raymend, 20s. & Goody Graften, 24s., 44s.; total 158li. 13s. 4d.

Elizabeth Bunker was twelve years old; Will., ten years old; Mary, six; An, four; and Martha, one year and a half.—*June 29, 1658.*

"the 22. 8. 57

"We hose names ar under written beinge apointed by the two Townes to lay out a cuntrie way be twine the too Townes Salem & Topsfield we began vpon John Porters farme acordinge as the trees ar marked and so alonge vpon Daniell Rayes farme too pole brod and so thoroh the woods to a farme of John Porters wich was formerly m^r Kenistones

and so thoroh the woods to a farme of John Porters wich was formerly m^r Dounings and so thoroh the woods to the Rever against Gudman Tounes house and this we have don accordinge to our best descretion.

"John Porter

"William dodge

"Thomas Berman

"frances pabody

"This was alowed of by the court (as it is layd out) held at Salem 29th of June 1658. Robert Lord cleric"
—June 29, 1658.

Robert Andrews served on the grand jury and Isaac Comings on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Sept. 28, 1658.

Granted to Daniell Clarke, administration on estate of Andrew Creeke. Inventory was insufficient to pay bills by 40s.

Inventory of estate of Andrew Creeke, appraised by Frances Pabody and Robert Andrews of Topsfield, Sept. 17, 1658: Old clothes 1li. 3s. 6d.; his suit of better cloths 2li. 6s.; bannds, bandstrings & handkerchers, 13s. 6d.; a hatt, 13s. 6d.; a bottle, two knives & a spoone, 1s. 10d.; an ax, 2s.; a shirt 2s.; a pot & pothooks, 10s.; a baskett & a paille, 1s.; a rapier & a belt, 16s.; a cove in Mathy Stanlyes hands, wtth a years rent almost due. 4li. 8s.; dew to him of his wages, 6li.; a heifers Hyde at the tanners, 7s. 5d.; 12s. received of Mr. Apleton, 17li. 17s. 4d. The debts wch. the sayd Andrew owed when he dyed wch. doth allreadye appeare: Oweing to his master Daniell Clarke when they reconed for his last years wages 11s.: payd to Mr. Wade for a suit of cloths for him, with makeing of them & a paire of stockings, 3li. 10s.; a paire of knit stockings & a shirt, 12s. 6d.; for shoes & leather, 6s. 6d.; payd John Newmarsh his wife for making bands, 3s. 4d.; payd to Goodman Woodam for him, 2s.; payd to Mr. Wilson, 1s. & to Deacon Knowlto, 3s., 4s.; oweing to John Tod wch. Dan Clarke is engaged for, 2li. 16s. 9d.; oweing to Mr. William Payne, 4li. 12s.; oweing to Mr. Baker, 1li. 18s. oweing to Tho. Lovell, 1li. 3s.; oweing to Mr. William Norton, 1li.; owing to Robert Lord, 1s. 6d.; coffin & wynding sheet & other charges for his buryall, 1li. 8s.; to John

Andrews, 12s. 7d.; oweing to Humphry Griffen, 7s.; for tyme Daniell Clarke spent to bring in an Inventory & for entering the order of administration & other fees. 9s.; total, 19li. 16s. 2d. Sworn by Daniell Clarke, 29: 7: 1658, before Robert Lord, cleric.—*Sept. 28, 1658.*

Zacheous Goold to be summoned to appear at next court to answer complaint of abusive carriages in the meeting house.—*Sept. 28, 1658.*

Topsfield vital records:—

Mary, daughter of Daniell Clark, born Nov. 1, 1645.

Elizabeth, daughter of Abrahama Redington, born Feb. 18, 1645.

Abraham, son of Abra Redington, born Nov. 25, 1647.

Elizabeth, daughter of Daniell Clark, born Nov. 10, 1647.

Dority, daughter of Daniel Clark, born Jan. 10, 1649.

Thomas, son of Abra Redington, born July 25, 1649.

John, son of John Redington, born June 20, 1649.

Sara, daughter of Daniel Clarke, born last of Jan., 1651.

Mary, daughter of Jo. Redington, born May 4, 1651.

Sara, daughter of Abr. Redington, born Mar. 15, 1654.

Martha, daughter of Daniel Clarke, born Nov. 22, 1655.

Martha and Phebe, daughters of John Redington, born Apr. 7, 1655.

Isack, son of Abraham Redington, born June 27, 1657.

Daniell, son of Daniell Clarke, born Oct. 26, 1657.

Joseph, son of Robert Andrews, born Sept. 18, 1657.

Sara, daughter of Edmond Towne, born Apr. 26, 1657.

Daniell, son of John Redington, born Mar. 17, 1657.

Presela, daughter of John Wild, born Apr. 6, 1658.

Jacob Towne married Cathorne Simons, June 26, 1657.

William Smith married Rebeca Keas, July 6, 1657.

Ruth, daughter of Francis Pabodie, born May 22, 1658.

Joseph, son of Isack Estey, born Feb. 5, 1658.

John, son of Jacob Towne, born Apr. 2, 1658.

William, son of William Smith, born July 17, 1658.

John, son of Mr. William Pirkins, born Apr. 2, 1655.

Sarah, daughter of Mr. William Pirkins, born Mar. 2, 1656.

Timothy, son of Mr. William Pirkins, born Aug. 11, 1658.

Gorge Bunker died May 26, 1658.

John Redington, Clark of the writs.—*Nov. 30, 1658.*

"A note of fines since ye 9th. mo." includes "Wm. Smith for pushing his wife £1-10-0."—*Nov. 30, 1658.*

Thomas Hale v. Zacheus Gould. Debt.—*Nov. 30, 1658.*

Writ: Serg. Thomas Hale of Salem, attorney to Mr. Thomas Burnap, late of Redding v. Zacheas Goold of Topsfield or neere bordering there vnto; dated, 17: 9: 1658; and signed by Hillyard Veren, for the court; served by Samuel Archard, jr., deputy marshal, by attachment of house and land of defendant. Zacheus Gould, "not being abel to Com," appointed "my Cozan John Putnam the younger" his attorney, dated, Nov. 20, 1658. Wit: John Gould and Antony (his mark) Carill.

Thomas Burnapp appointed his "well beloved friend," Thomas Hale of Salem, his attorney. 17: 5: 1658, in action against Zacheus Goold, who dwelt "neere Topsfield." Wit: Joshua Tourland and Hillyard Veren. Debt of seven pounds due Burnap.—*Nov. 30, 1658.*

Mr. William Browne v. William Towne. For not giving account of a heifer hired by defendant. Case withdrawn.—*Nov. 30, 1658.*

Isaacke Estye's servant, Joseph Williams, ran away from him, and thereby damaged him. Ordered that the portion of said Williams' estate in the hands of Jeffery Masseye, Tho. Wattson or Henry Skerry, trustees, be kept by them until the court take further order.—*Dec. 2, 1658.*

Writ: John Andrews v. Thomas Averill; for debt; dated 19: 9: 1658; signed by Robert Lord, for the court; and served by Edward Browne, marshal of Ipswich, by attachment of wheat.—*Dec. 30, 1658.*

Writ: Humphry Griffen v. Daniell Clarke; for debt; dated 22: 9: 1658 signed by Robert Lord, for the court; and served by Edward Browne, marshal.—*Dec. 30, 1658.*

Writ: Richard Hutton v. John Andrews; for debt; dated, 24: 9: 1658; signed by Tho. Fiske, for the court; and served by Edward Browne, marshal, by attachment of house and land.—*Dec. 30, 1658.*

Thomas Dorman served on the jury of trials at Ipswich, March 29, 1659.

Walter Roper in behalf of the town of Ipswich v. Frances Pabody and Rich. Walker. For felling several white

oak trees upon Ipswich town commons. Verdict for plaintiff.

Samuel Symonds was granted a farm of five hundred acres toward the west end of the town, commonly called Olliver's he to be constantly supplied with timber and firewood off the commons. Extract from town record book, 3: 10: 1642. Robert Lord, clerk, May 24, 1658.

John Perley deposed that he asked Richard Walker who felled the white oaks that lay near his master Pabody's meadow, and he replied that he did, six of them, in Ipswich commons, according to the bounds of said Francis Pabody's farm shown him by the lot layer, Corporal Gage. Sworn in court at Ipswich, Mar. 29, 1659.

Samuel Perley deposed that he went with his brother John. Sworn Mar. 29, 1659.

John Baker, jr., deposed. Sworn Mar. 29, 1659.

Copy of town order that Walter Roper and Richard Shatswell be chosen to prevent persons from cutting trees on the north side of the river, and William Story and Thomas Bishop on the south side, Jan. 17, 1656. Copy taken from the town book, Mar. 25, 1659, by Robert Lord, clerk.

Nathaniell Perlye deposed that coming from Topesfeld he saw Richard Walker and Joseph Pebodye felling trees: "For railes," Walker said. Deponent said, "I scarselie se any whit oaks felled for railes." This was on the bottom of the hill, called Mr. Winthrop's hill, next to Goodman Pebody's cove of meadow. Sworn in court at Ipswich, Mar. 29, 1659.—*Mar. 29, 1659.*

Zacheus Gould upon complaint by Isaack Cummings, admonished, and to pay costs.

Wm. Perkins and Isack Comins, sr., deposed "that Zachaeus Gould in time or singing y^e psalm one Sabbath day in y^e afternoone, sate him downe upon y^e end of y^e Table (about w^{ch} y^e minister & chiefe of y^e people sit) wth his his hatt fully on his head, & his back toward all y^e rest of y^m y^t sate about y^e Table & though spoken to by y^e minister & 2 others, ether to shewe reverence to y^e Ordinance or to wthdrawe, yet altered not his posture & y^e Sabbath following, after that the congregation was dismissed in y^e afternoone, desired y^e Congregation to stay & thereupon

spake saying y^t hee had bin informed how y^t y^e last Sabbath day hee had bin commanded out of the meeting house, but it was not for want of age, nether had hee anything to doe y^t commanded him, for y^e house was *non* of his—also he sd that he had heard much speech of y^e ministers of Christ, & hee confest also, that they could not bee too much honored, but sd hee we knowe y^t there bee a Company of hirelings who if they fre not their mouths they prepare warre agst yⁿ, such Micah speakes of Chapt. 3^d v. 7th—see John 10th—w^{ch} hee s^d hee would not reade but they might reade at their leisure—also hee added that he had bin informed that a learned speech y^e goodma Coms made, but he was told by some or one, y^t was now mor nearely Related to him, yⁿ himselve y^t hee was a proud probmatial, base, beggarly, pick thank fellowe, whereupon hee was desired to hold his peace, but hee replied y^t they had nothing to doe to injoyne him silence, y^e house was none of theirs who did injoyne him, whereupon hee was told y^t he would finde y^e contrary, whereupon he oft dared us to do our worst.” Sworn in Ipswich court, Mar. 29, 1659.

Isaack Comins sr., and John Comins testified that when Mr. Perkins was in his sermon, Zacheus Gould spoke audibly y^t what Mr. Perkins was yⁿ a speaking was ether . . . things or niceties, etc. Sworn in Ipswich court, Mar. 29, 1659.

Wm. Euens and James Howe Ju^r. made deposition “y^t Zacheus Gould (coming out of y^e meeting house upon such a sabbath day) wherein Mr. Perkins had from Mal. 4. 5. spoke somthing of ye Nature & worth of y^e ministry spoke as followeth viz. y^t there is much talking of y^e Ministers of Christ, and y^e honor y^t is due to y^m, but I would faine see some of y^m, but hirelings are none of y^m, & Mr. Perkins is an hireling & therefore none of them.” Sworn in Ipswich Court, Mar. 29, 1659.

“The charges for Isack Comins. Mr. Perkins 3 days 6 shellins, goodman euens on day 2 shellins, James how on day 2 shellins: Isaake comens 3 days 6 shellings. John comans on day 2 shellings. the som is 18 shellings.”—*Mar. 29, 1659.*

John Andrews fined for taking tobacco contrary to law. Execution respitted or to pay witness fees of William Wilde.—*April 28, 1659.*

Joseph Williams, who ran away from his master, Isaack Easty, ordered to return to him, having been seven months absent. Ordered also to serve him fourteen months after his time.—*June 28, 1659.*

Five pounds allowed to Topsfield toward building a bridge sufficient for horses, at least, to be made over the river near William Towne's house.

Petition of the town of Topsfield, signed by Zaccheus Gould and Francis Peabody in answer to a presentment of this court. They stated that they found the work heavy and "are forced to seek out for some help," etc.—*June 28, 1659.*

The constable of Topsfield was fined for not making return of juryman.—*Sept. 27, 1659.*

Zacheous Goold v. William Nicolls and William Clarke. Trespass. Withdrawn.—*Sept. 27, 1659.*

Frances Ursellton v. John Godfrye. For not performing a summer's work. Verdict for plaintiff.

Issack Ong deposed that he met with John Godfere at Goodman Parllys when he came out of Ipswich jail and he said he was engaged to work for Usselton all summer. Also for the want of twenty rods of two rail fence he suffered damage from a cow, etc. Sworn in Ipswich court, 27: 7: 1659.

John How deposed that Godfree engaged to work for Usseltuns from the fifteenth or twentieth of April until Michaelmas, and was to receive eight shillings per week, and that he had received 4li. 14s., in consideration of service, etc. Sworn as above.

Danill Black and John Baker, jr., deposed that being at Goodman Usselton's house, they saw that about six acres of corn was spoiled for want of tending with the hoe, etc. Sworn in Ipswich court.—*Sept. 27, 1659.*

Frances Urselton, having attached John Godfry, and action not entered, Godfry was allowed costs.—*Sept. 27, 1659.*

Luke Wakeling was released from training, paying one bushel of Indian corn a year to the use of the company. —*Sept. 27, 1659.*

Francis Urselton, bound to good behavior, was discharged.—*Sept. 27, 1659.*

Edward Neland fined for excessive drinking.—*Nov. 24, 1659.*

Frances Vsselton v. John Godfery. Debt of five pounds for five months' service. Nonsuited.—*Nov. 24, 1659.*

Thomas Joanes v. Francis Usselton. Debt. Two cases. Writ served by Edward Brown, marshal, by attachment of house and land.—*Nov. 24, 1659.*

Frances Usselton v. John Tod. Debt to be paid to Mr. Batter. Withdrawn.

Writ, dated, 22: 9: 1659, signed by John Redington, for the court, and served by Will—, constable of Rowley. —*Nov. 24, 1659.*

Writ: Daniell Black v. Alexander Thompson; debt, for wheat and malt and a hat; dated, Nov. 4, 1659; signed by Robert Lord, for the court; served by Edward Browne, marshal.—*Nov. 24, 1659,*

Presentment from Salem:—Sarah Clerk, for stealing a silk scarf from the house of Jno. Putname, jr. Confessed to Tho. Putnam. Fined.

Summons to Sarah Clarke to appear to answer to her presentment for stealing. Writ: Tho. Putnam.

Sarah Clarke summoned, Oct. 28, 1659, for stealing a silk scarf from the house of John Putnam, jr., signed by Hillyard Veren, clerk. Francis Heseeltun, constable of Topsfield. Daniel Clarke [deputy?].—*Nov. 24, 1659.*

Robert Andrews served on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Mar. 27, 1660.

Mr. William Perkins v. William Evans, in behalf of the town of Topsfield. For maintenance due him for his labors in the ministry. Nonsuited.—*Mar. 27, 1660.*

Mr. Symon Broadstreet v. John Wiles. For detaining a cow, and rent for several years. Plaintiff settled for fifty shillings.—*Mar. 27, 1660.*

Philip [Welsh] an Irishman, servant to Mr. Samuel Symonds, sentenced to the house of correction for stubborn-

ness and other offences. Upon request of his master, respitted until he again has cause to complain of him.—*Mar. 27, 1660.*

Mr. Henry Bartholmew v. Jacob Towne. For detaining and withholding a mare and foal, according to attachment. Verdict for plaintiff.

Writ: Mr. Henry Bartholmew v. Jacob Towne of Topsfield; dated, 28: 3: 1660; signed by Hillyard Veren, for the court; and served by Samuell Archard, deputy marshal, by attachment of house and barn.

Henry Bartholmew's bill of costs, 3li. 3s. 8d.

John Wildes, aged about forty years, deposed that the mare in controversy had the same earmarks as Jacob Towne's mare, and that the mare was formerly in deponents' possession, the latter and Edmund Towne having marked her. Deponent also testified that he made over a part of the said mare to said Jacob Towne about three years before. Sworn, June 22, 1660, before Daniel Denison.

William Nicolls deposed that he had known this mare as Henry Bartholmew's for the past two years, and she had been in summer about Ipswich river, mostly in Topsfield, etc. Sworn in court.

John Nicolls, aged about twenty years, deposed that three years before, he had helped this mare out of a mire, and had often seen her, with her foal, in that land called the Blind Hole; that he heard the mare belonged to Henry Bartholmew; the latter having bought her of Liftnt. Lothrop; that the foal came while she was on the other side of Ipswich river on the Governor's farm, and deponent had seen her the past spring at his father's house and that she was the same mare that Jacob Towne had taken up, etc. Sworn in court.

Fransis Nurse deposed that "after my brother Jacob and brother Isack had had some discourse with Jossiah Raye about the mare my brother had lost I coming with him from my howse on an lecture day," deponent asked his brother if he could not by any lawful means get the mare, and he replied that she had been sold, and for all he knew might have gone to Berbadus, etc. Sworn in court.

Isack Estey deposed that he and his brother, Jacob Towne, were at Jossiah Rayes house, and heard said Ray say that his brother Lawthrop had taken up a mare very like said Towne's, and deponent thought from the way they spoke that it did not belong to Lathrop, etc. Sworn in court.

John Lovet, Ensign Willa. Dixi and William Ellet deposed that the mare was the same that Lieut. Lothrop sold to Mr. Henry Bartholomew, etc. Sworn in court.

Jeremy Hubbard, aged twenty-eight years, deposed that he lived for more than four years at the house of Lieut. Lothrop, and that he had known the mare since she was two years old, etc. Sworn in court.

John Gould deposed that he was with Jacob Towne when he took up the mare, etc. Sworn in court.

Thomas Lawthroppe deposed that this mare was the same that he sold Mr. Bertholmew, together with a bay horse colt, two years and a half before. The mare had a list down her back, had a little bit cut out of her right ear, usually called a half-penny, near the middle of the ear, which was the earmark deponent had used more than twenty years, etc. Sworn in court.

Richard Mid—— also testified. Sworn in court.

William Towne and John Putnam testified that upon some difference about the bounds of Mr. Peterse and Mr. Foogs Meadow, Joshua Ray said that he could show the tree that was the bound tree, etc. Sworn in court.

Joseph Towne, aged about twenty-one years, deposed that he was at his brother's when John Wills and deponent's brothers marked the mare, which was a bright bay, with black legs, black mane and black tail, etc. Sworn in court.

Joshua Rea and William Cressy deposed that the mare they saw at Jacob Towne's was the same that Lieut. Lothrop sold to Mr. Henry Bartholomew, etc. Sworn in court.

Edman Town, Franses Nors and Joseph Town also deposed. Sworn in court.

Edmon Town, aged thirty-one years, brother of defendant deposed that the mare which Jacob Towne lost three years since came of a mare which now belongs to John Wills,

and she was in deponent's yard at his house, and they marked all the beasts with the same earmark, etc. After marking they divided the mares, John Wills, having the old mare and his brother Jacob the young one, etc. Sworn in court.

William Towne, aged three score years, deposed that when Joshua Raye and William Creece came to view the mare that his son, Jacob Towne, now has in his possession, said Jacob asked Creece if he knew the mare that Mr. Bartelmue bought of his master Latrape and he said he did. When questioned about earmarks, he could not answer definitely, etc. Sworn in court.—*June 26, 1660.*

Danyell Cleark was licensed to keep a house of public entertainment in Topsfield.—*June 26, 1660.*

Isaac Comings served on the grand jury and Thomas Dorman on the jury of trials, at Ipswich, Sept. 25, 1660.

Daniell Blake fined 5*li.* for making love to the daughter of Edmond Bridges, without consent of her parents. Execution respitted.

The examination of Daniel Black and Faith Bridges, concerning his notorious, evil carriage: First, said Black confessed that contrary to the mind of her father, he stayed with her in her father's house late upon the last day of June, 1660, when the family were in bed, it being about ten o'clock when Edmund Bridges went to bed that night. Second, that having taken William Danford from his master Pritchett's work, to go with him to Rowly, they carried a bottle of wine to the house of Edmund Deere in Ipswich; and being there, he employed the said William as his messenger and instrument to draw the said young wench to him at Deere's house, from her father's house, her father and mother being absent from home; that she stayed at Deere's house half and hour, when Deere and his wife were not at home.

Edmund Bridges bound for his daughter's appearance.

William Danford said that Daniel Black said to him that he could "beteame to stabb him" because he stayed so long, and this was after the wench was come to him at Deere's house.

Danford was bound to appear at next Ipswich court in this case. Sureties: William Vselton and John Marshall.

"Gudm Bridges I pray let me be remembered to you and let me intrete your leniti toward Daniell blak or giue or produs bond for him rather then imprison him I would haue Cam my self but my ocasions will not let me he is like to loes his korn if he li by it and if you and he do take up so much of the matter as you can Conuenientli which he is willing to doe it may do well on both parties.

"Yours Daniell Clark."

Warrant, dated, 4: 5: 1660, to the constables of Ipswich, Rowley and Toppesfeild for the arrest of Daniel Black and William, an Irish man servant of William Pritchett; also to summon John Brewer. Obidiah Bridges and the wife of Edmund Deere, as witnesses; signed by Samuel Symonds.—*Sept. 25, 1660.*

William Damford fined 10s. for his offence.—*Sept. 25, 1660.*

Evan Morice was fined 40s. and ordered to prison for drunkenness, quarrelling and railing speeches.

Francis Ussleton and Edmund Bridges deposed that Evan Morrice provoked them by railing speeches, such as calling them cheating rogues, baud-birds and Bridewell birds, etc.—*Sept. 25, 1660.*

Daniell Clarke was sentenced as follows: For selling half a pint of liquor to the Indians, to pay a fine of 20s.; for provoking speeches, 10s.; for selling liquors without a license, imprisonment during the pleasure of the court; and for disorders in his house, he was prohibited from keeping an ordinary any longer.

Fraunces Usselton's complaints against Daniell Clark, dated Sept. 3, 1660: For selling strong liquors and wine without a license and charging excessive prices for same, for selling liquors to Indians, for breach of the peace, neglect of his duties in his office of constable and disorder in his house.

Summons to Thomas Wase, Edmond Bredges and Anthony Carell, as witnesses; dated, Sept. 24, 1660; signed by John Redington, for the court.

Edmond Bridges, jr. deposed that, being at Daniell Clarke's to attend a town meeting, and the town affairs being concluded, he and some others called for a cup of liquor for their refreshment. When they asked for a reckoning, a contest arose between Daniell Clarke and his servant, Evin Morris, about the amount. Said Morris interrupted and contradicted his master with opprobrious language, giving him the lie and further ratifying his abusing deportment by holding up his hand against him. Deponent, fearing the issue of so hot a contention, pushed Evin back but the latter being overcome with drink, fell upon the ground, and after recovering his legs, laid violent hands upon deponent, buffeting him with as good courage as his cups and manhood would permit. Francis Ursleton was a spectator, who tried by argument and persuasion to prevent Evan Morris from committing such misdemeanors, but the latter affronted him also. Daniel Clark also laid violent hands on Francis Ursleton, dragging him by his neckcloth and calling him cheating rogue, etc., and claiming that deponent and Ursleton had contrived to satisfy their account due upon his book by some such way as Ursleton paid him for breaking up his land. He also called them to the field, saying, "Come Ursleton lett us goe behind ye hill & I will try a touch with thee." Urselton replied that it was time to stand upon his guard and took said Clark by the neckcloth for his personal security, whereupon Clark asked deponent and William Smith to aid him in taking said Urselton to the stocks. Urselton refused to go without his hat, but having procured it, the constable refused to see to the prosecution of this charge, etc.

Francis Ussleton and Edmun Bridges deposed that Daniel Clarke owned to both of them that he had no license to sell either wine or liquors; also that he had sold to John Indian eight shillings' worth of liquor and three meals of victuals, etc. Sworn in Ipswich court, 25: 7: 1660, before Robert Lord, clerk.

Sarah Ussleton deposed that, being at Daniell Clark's the night of the trouble, notwithstanding the condition of Morice, Goodwife Clarke let him have three gills more of

liquor and, she thought, one pint of wine. Then said Morice raged and called deponent and his dame vile names, and said he would kill Isaac Ong and deponent. Clarke took no notice, but told his wife she had made him drunk. Sworn in court.

Thomas Wasse, Anthony Carill, John How, Frances Ursellton, Daniell Black, and Edmond Bridges testified that they saw Indians drink and buy liquors in Clark's house. Sworn in court.

Isack Ong deposed that after the trouble, he being at Clarke's house that night, Evan Morris went to bed and later came down in his shirt. At the request of Goode Clarck, he tried to persuade Morris to go back to bed, but he refused, saying he would not stay with such rogues, etc. Sworn in court.

Edmond Bridges and Danill Blake deposed that when they were at Danill Clark's about reaping time with Bridges' brother, Obedyah, John Crumill and John McShane, they spent seven shillings, of which John Crommill paid four shilling, eight pence, in money, and said Bridges paid seven groats; they also paid for one pint of wine. Danile Blake paid for one pint of liquor. Cromile wished to go home, but Clark persuaded the company to stay, and for one who did not like liquor, Clark said he would send to Ipswich for some sack, etc. Sworn in Ipswich court, Sept. 25, 1660, before Robert Lord clerk.

Edmund Bridges deposed that Francis Ussleton, being employed by worshipfull Mr. Simons to serve a warrant upon Daniell Clarke and Even Morrice, said Clarke broke forth into violent speech, calling said Ussleton rogue and bidding him depart his house or he would crack his crown; and this before he had time to legally serve the warrant.

Thomas Wasse deposed that being resident at Daniel Clarke's house about a month, he saw no disorder in the house by intemperate drinking and told all to be prudent and cautious; that he had further heard him tell Even Morris not to call for any liquors to drink with any that came to his house but rather to deny the acceptance of "pledging his guesse" that he might the better avoid disorder and super-

fluous expenses; that Clark knew his constitution to be such that a little drink would overcome him and "exasperate his sperit." John Baker, William Smyth and Francis Bates testified the same.

John Baker, jr., deposed that he came by accident to Daniell Clark's, when Urselton and Bridges were there with a warrant for said Clark. They showed it to deponent, but snatched it away from him when they saw said Clark's wife approaching. They told said Clark that they had it, but would not let him see it, only hear some part of it. Clark departed out of the house, but immediately returned and asked for provisions, which his wife refused him. He replied that such rascals should not have them, requiring pay for what was already due, adding also he had "layd downe the ordinary."—*Sept. 25, 1660.*

Edmond Bridges, of Topsfield, and Frances Urselton were fined and sent to prison for quarreling, not submitting to the constable and abusing him in his own house.

"To the honnred Cortt

"with dew respectes as your worships are the fateres of the land and home is here agused in som partt Justly and in som part not justly: as will apeare upone the searching into mattars: do acknleige that it is mattar of blame unto me in this mattars so far as i do and shall acknowledg and accordingly as is or shall belegeoly proued against me: therfor I hope your wourchipps will considdare me as hath all Redy bene acknoleged by them: selfe dainle clarke and as I shall plainly make apeare to the Iyese of y^e worlde that I hath bene noe unresonabell mane in way of exspences but I hath bene very diligent in my labour sence I came to topsfelde in my trade: a[n]d do beseach The praires of this honnrd cortt to god for me as i hops I haue founde the Benefitt of all redy: that god would Be plesed to make me conchonabell in my life in my dealing both in respect of attendans to the calls of the contry and in my trade: which i do desiar to be sarvisaball in to improue my talent which god hath put in my hand lik wise I do dessoune taking part with goodman Usilton in any respect of euill but the ocasion of my coming hether was by a sumans of francis Usilton: to geife euedencs in this case therfor I

hope the honnred cortt will considare my ernest and sears exspreshons ad all in way of humbleing of my selfe in what i am found a delinquant in: Edmond Bridges."

Goodwife Bates deposed that "hearing at my house a great noise And Good^m Usseltons tongue in the noise, and knowing that my Husband was gone to Goodm Clarks, for a pitcher of small beere, I feared uselton had or would mischeife my husband in useltons quarrelsome humor, And I came to the house In all the haste I could make, And when I came I heard Goodwife Clark cry out o my Husband, And uselton had him by the throat, & nubled him under the throat and abused him like a dogg, and also in wordes uery badly, And railed one Goodwife Clarke: saying shee was a deuclish woman, And the duiell was in her and would haue her, And they would not obey but Refused to obey the authority of the Constable, the more he commanded the peace the more they Reuiled him and Refused to depart the house: and said the house was theirs, And after the constable had gott Evin Morris from them, And shut him from them in a parlor they broke open the doore twice, to quarrell as I thinke with Evin Morris so that Good^m Clarke was uery hardly put to it to keepe the peace, for Edmund Bridges threw Euin Morris twice against the ground like a dogg," etc. The quarrel lasted three hours and all that time Goodman Clarke gave them no ill language. Sworn in Ipswich court, Sept. 25, 1660, before Robert Lord, clerk.

Edmund Bridges testified that what Daniel Clarcke accused Goodman Ussleton of, namely, laying hands on him, was done after said Clake had challenged the field of him, and after he had made William Smith his deputy; further that Clarke said that Ussleton would not depart the house without more drink, which consisted of small household beer, etc.

William Smith deposed that Usselton threw Morris upon the ground, holding him by the throat, etc. Also, that Goodman Clark did not challenge Bridges, but told them that they were unmanly fellows to meddle with such a poor fellow, not being ignorant of his weakness and extreme passion, and tried to rid the house of them. Sworn

in Ipswich court, Sept. 25, 1660, before Robert Lord, clerk.

Matthew Stanley deposed that he was asked by Goodman Clarke to help pacify them, but he knew that he was not able and so refused; also, that said Clarke used no unmeet language, etc. Sworn in court.

Francis Baker deposed that Morris' mouth was very much swollen and bled. He heard Goodwife Clarke cry out, fearing that her husband would be killed. They desired deponent to help quell the disturbance, but he could do nothing on account of a lame hand, etc. Sworn in court.—*Sept. 25, 1660.*

Frances Usselton fined for swearing the second time, and for taking tobacco in the street on the Lord's day.—*Sept. 25, 1660.*

Frances Usselton and his wife were admonished for leaving their children alone in the night in a lonely house, far from neighbors, after having been warned of it. He was to be punished, if any danger came from it.—*Sept. 25, 1660.*

Mr. Edmond Batter v. Frances Usslton. Debt. Verdict for plaintiff. The defendant being not in this jurisdiction, judgment respitted.

Writ: Mr. Edmond Batter v. Frances Uslenton of Topsfield; debt; dated, Oct. 11, 1660; signed by Hillyard Veren, for the court; and served by Tho. Rix, whom Samuel Archer, marshall of Salem, appointed as his deputy, by attachment of the house and land of defendant in Topsfeild.

Jno. Godfery, aged about forty years, testified that, having discourse with Franc. Urslington about the land he lived upon it Topsfield, which was mortgaged to said Godfery, he acknowledged that he owed Mr. Batter about twenty pounds. This was sometime the latter end of the last summer. Sworn in court, 27: 9: 1660, before Hillyard Veren, cleric.—*Nov. 27, 1660.*

Mr. John Payne v. Frances Usselton. Debt. Verdict for plaintiff. Judgment respitted.

Writ: Mr. Robert or John Paine of Ipswich v. Francis Usselton; debt; dated, 17: 9: 1660; signed by Daniel Denison, for the court; and served by Robert Lord, marshall of Ipswich, by attachment of house and land.

Bond of Francis (his mark) Urselton of Topsfield to Mr. Robert Paine or John Paine, his son, dated, Feb. 28, 1659-60, for five pounds to be paid in beef, pork or wheat on Oct. 28, 1660, at the dwelling house of said Robert Paine. Wit: Robert Payne, jr., and Elisabeth Payne. Sworn by the witnessess, 9: 26: 1660, before Daniel Denison.—*Nov. 27, 1660.*

Cornelius Waldoe v. Frances Usselton. For assaulting him upon the highway, putting him in fear and saying he had stolen his hogs, pretending he was the constable's deputy and had a special warrant, according to attachment, dated, 9: 8: 1660. Verdict for plaintiff.

Writ, dated Oct. 9, 1660, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and served by Robert Lord, marshal.

Francis (his mark) Urselton's bond to Cornelius Waldo, dated, Oct. 10, 1660, for appearance at next Salem court.

Nath. Putman was attorney to Francis Urselton.

Robert Day and Theophilus Wilson, constables of Ipswich, testified, 26: 9: 1660, that they did not make Frances Usselton of Topsfeild their deputy to take Corncales Woldo.

Robert Punell, aged about twenty years, deposed that being at Daniell Warner's house on Oct 8, he heard Mr. Waldo cry out for help about midnight. Deponent ran out with others, and he heard Frances Urselton say that he had taken Mr. Waldo prisoner, that he apprehended him for a thief because he had stolen his sow and pigs and sold them in the town. Mr. Waldo bade him go for the constable, and Urselton replied that he had a special warrant for him. Deponent further testified that when he first came out of the house, he saw said Urselton hold Mr. Waldo's horse by the bridle, and when the latter went away to go home, he ran after said Waldo and caught him by the leg. Sworn, 26: 9: 1660, before Daniel Denison.

Samuell Lord, aged about twenty years, deposed that Mr. Waldo desired of Goodman Warner, on the night of the trouble, if he could have a room in his house, for he was afraid to venture with Urselton, but a while after, Mr. Waldo said he would go home, and Urselton said he

would go with him. Waldo rode away toward the river, followed by Ursselton, and called out for help, turning his horse toward the bridge. Sworn, 26: 9: 1660, before Daniel Denison.

Daniell Warner, jr., deposed that being up late in his father's house somebody called, and he and many others who were present went out and found Mr. Waldo, etc. Usselton refused to read the warrant before deponent's father. Sworn, 26: 9: 1660, before Daniel Denison.—*Nov. 27, 1660.*

Mr. Cornelius Waldo was ordered to have charges in the action of Frances Usselton against him, the latter not appearing to prosecute.

Francis Usselton complained that Cornelius Waldo had taken a sow of his and killed her, and disposed of eight pigs of his without his knowledge or order. Usselton claimed he bought them of said Waldo. Both were bound to the next Salem court. Copy of record of the court of Oct. 9, 1660, made on Nov. 26, 1660, by Daniel Denison. *Nov. 27, 1660.*

Frances Usselton forfeited his bond for non-appearance in his case against Cornelius Waldo.—*Nov. 27, 1660.*

Writ: Francis Usselton v. Cornelius Waldo; for not satisfying him for a parcel of wheat and swine he received of plaintiff; dated, Oct. 9, 1660; signed by Daniel Denison, for the court; and served by Robert Lord, marshal of Ipswich, by attachment of land lying about defendant's house.—*Nov. 27, 1660.*

William Perkins, aged between nineteen and twenty years, Tobias Perkins, aged about fourteen years, and Elizabeth Perkins, aged about seventeen years, all children of Mr. William Perkins of Topsfield, chose their father to be their guardian, and the court allowed it.—*Nov. 27, 1660.*

Writ: Frances Pebody, in behalf of the town v. Richard Kimbole, in behalf of Mr. Gote and Thomas Fisk, being partners with him; for not paying rates due the ministry, by virtue of his hiring Mr. Brodstreet's farm; dated, Nov. 19, 1660; signed by John Redington, for the court; and served by Robert Gowin, deputy to the constable of Wenham.—*Nov. 27, 1660.*

Francis Peabody served on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Mar. 26, 1661.

Isaack Comings and William Evans, in behalf of the town of Topsfield v. Zacheous Gould. Trespass. For claiming a parcel of meadow belonging to the said town and carrying away the hay. Withdrawn.

Zacheas Gould's bill of charges, to summoning Wm. Howard, witness from Boston, and one from New Med-owes, 1li. 11s. 8d.

Copy of Topsfield town records 22: 12: 1660, in which it was voted to authorize Isack Cumings, sr., and William Evens to prosecute against Zacheas Gould, Thomas Browning and William Towne to recover the meadow, etc. Copy made by John Redington, clerk.

Zacheas Gould, aged seventy-two years, deposed that at a meeting at Topsfield many years before, Willm. Howard, then living at Topsfield, asked them to grant him a parcel of land lying near the farm house of Mr. Willm. Paine on the south side of the river, which was accordingly granted to Wm. Howard and Wolter Ropper. Said Howard was ordered to lay out the land, which he did, and made return to the town, and so entered in the town book. If any of this land should fall within Salem bounds, the town of Topsfield was not to make that good. Sworn in Ipswich court, Mar. 26, 1661, before Robert Lord, clerk.

Walter Ropper, aged about forty-eight years, and Willm. Howard, aged about fifty-two years, deposed, Mar. 26, 1661, that some little time after the village of Topsfield was made a township by the General Court, Willm. Howard, then of Topsfield, asked at a lawful meeting for a nook or point of land that laid against the farm house and part of the farm that the said Howard bought of Mr. Wm. Paine. It was to begin where the river turned in toward Paine's farm, and to run over the point of upland called Salem meadow, which part was then in possession of said Howard, upon a straight line as near as might be so as to take in said Salem meadow. If the town saw fit to lay out a highway through said land, that this grant should not hinder. This grant also included the two acres of meadow

that Willm. Towne bought of Mr. Paine and eight acres of meadow in the hands of Thomas Browning. The book in which the record was kept, the inhabitants of Topsfield now say was burned when John Redington's house was burned. Sworn in Ipswich court, Mar. 26, 1661, before Robert Lord, clerk.—*Mar. 26, 1661.*

Isaack Comings and William Evans, in behalf of the town of Topsfield v. Thomas Browneing. Trespass. For possessing and fencing a parcel of meadow belonging to the said town, mowing grass and carrying away hay for several years. Withdrawn.—*Mar. 26, 1661.*

Isaack Comings and William Evans, in behalf of the town of Topsfield v. Will. Towne. Trespass. For detaining a parcel of meadow, etc. Withdrawn.—*Mar. 26, 1661.*

Copy of Salem court record of 27: 9: 1660, Mr. Edmond Batter v. Frances Ursellton. Debt. Defendant was not of this jurisdiction and judgment respitted. Copy made by Hillyard Veren, clerk. This court granted judgment to Mr. Edmond Batter, who bound himself to repay, if Francis Ursellton come within the year.—*Mar. 26, 1661.*

Daniell Clarke, constable of Topsfield, was allowed 14s. for "hue & cries."—*Mar. 26, 1661.*

Danyell Rumboll, Mark Bacheldor and Tho. Fisk v. Edmond Towne. For illegally detaining a parcel of meadow lying by or bounding upon a meadow, sometime Mr. Pembleton's.

Writ, dated, 16: 4: 1661, signed by Tho. Fiske, for the court, and served by John Willd, constable of Topsfield, by attachment of nine acres of land.—*June 25, 1661.*

Samll. Symonds, gentleman v. Phillip Welch. For absolutely refusing to serve his master, Mr. Simonds, any longer, there being several years yet due, according to the purchase from the shipmaster who brought him over to sell.

Writ, dated, May 15, 1661, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and served by Theophilus Wilson, constable of Ipswich.

Samuel Symonds, gent., complaint to Salem court, against his two servants, June 25, 1661.

Defence of William Downeing and Philip Welch: "We were brought out of o^r owne Conntry, contrary to our owne wills & minds, & sold here unto M^r Symonds, by y^e master of the Ship, M^r Dill, but what Agreement was made betweene M^r Symonds & y^e Said master, was neuer Acted by our Consent or knowledge, yet notwithstanding we haue indeauored to do him y^e best seruice wee Could these seuen Compleat yeeres, which is 3 yeeres more then y^e use to sell ym for at Barbadoes, wⁿ they are stollen in England, And for our seruice, we haue noe Callings nor wages, but meat & Cloths. Now 7 yeeres seruice being so much as y^e practise of old England, & thought meet in this place, & wee being both aboue 21 years of age, We hope this hono^red Court & Jury will seriously Consider our Conditions."

The plaintiff's plea: That he had about ten acres of Indian Corn to be tended and had to hire divers workmen; that during all this court time, his two servants, being all the men he had, were not working, and consequently all his cattle, fence and family were left destitute; that the bargain made between George Dell, the shipmaster, and the plaintiff was still in force, etc.

The jury reported a special verdict, that if Mr. Del's covenant be according to law, then they find service due from defendants to plaintiff until May 10, 1663; if not, they find for defendants. Judgment for plaintiff, Mr. Dell's deed legal, and said Downing and Welch to serve Mr. Symonds until 10: 3: 1663. Appealed to Court of Assistants. They promised to serve their master faithfully until the next court.

Bill of sale, dated, May, 10, 1654, from George Dell, master of the ship Goodfellow, who "sould unto M^r. Samuell Symonds two of the Irish youthes I brought over by order of the State of England: the name of one of them is william Dallton: the other Edward welch, to serue him," etc., for the space of nine years, in consideration of 26li. in merchantable corn or live cattle, before the end of the following October. Wit: Georg Maning.

"17th of May 1654.

"Whereas in the writing aboue mentioned there was a

pviso for good assurance, and seing that the younger youth in the said writing is called Edward, and that upon his arrivall at Ipsw^{ch} such as doe well understand his language doe say he owneth his name to be Philip, And whereas divers english are put out apprentices who at the end of their terme are older then he wilbe; and for incouragment of his master in teaching him what he conceive may doe him good, and that it wilbe tyme soon enough to goe out of service & betake himself to mannage a family, It is agreed between the abovesaid George Dell and m^r Samuell Symonds as foloweth That two yeares more are added to the Terme of the said Philip who in the writing above is called Edward welch which maketh it eleven yeares from the day of the date thereof. And the said Samuell doth hereby accept of both the said youthes as having good assurance." Signed by George Dell. Wit: Joseph S[we]tt, Joseph — and Georg Maning.

Kelecrist Ros deposed that upon a Sabbath day night before the last March court, he heard William Douney tell Mistress Symonds that he would get free if he could, when he had served seven years. Further, he heard William and Philip tell their master on the morning that the constable came for them, that if he would pay them for their time until Salem court, they would stay with him, but Symonds refused unless they would give security. When their master first brought them home, deponent asked William what Philip's name was and he said it was Philip. Sworn, June 24, 1661, before Daniel Denison.

John King deposed that he "with divers others were stollen in Ireland, by some of y^e English soldiers, in y^e night out of theyr beds & brought to M^r Dills ship, where the boate lay ready to receaue them, & in the way as they went, some others they tooke with them against their Consents, & brought them aboard y^e said ship, where there were diuers others of their Country men, weeping and Crying, because they were stollen from their frends, they all declareing y^e same, & amongst y^e rest were these two men, William Downeing & Philip Welch, and there they were kept, untill upon a Lord's day morning, y^e Master sett saile, and left some of his water & vessells behind for hast,

as I understood." Sworn in court, 26: 4: 1661, before Hilliard Veren, cleric.

John Downing testified that William Downing and Phillip Welch, with several of their countrymen, were taken up and stolen by the ship master or some one whom he hired. The shipmaster, George Dill, was fain to go away and leave his water and much of his provisions behind for fear the country would have taken them from him. Sworn, June 24, 1661, before Daniel Denison.

John Downing further made oath that he knew that he and three or four others of his townsmen were taken up by force; that he did not know the two parties in question, but they said in the ship that they were stolen and brought by force.

Naomy Hull, aged twenty years and upward, deposed that one night before her master Symonds' servants, William and Phillip, were arrested by the constable, they came into the parlor to prayer with the rest of the family, and Phillip asked if Goodman Bragg's son was coming to plow tomorrow. Her mistress said she thought so, that he said he would consider it. Philip then asked who would plow with him and her mistress said, "One of you." Philip said "We will worke with you, or for you, noe longer. Then said my m^r, is it soe? What will you, play? Then both of them stood in it & expressed that it was soe, & that they had been with you (speaking to my master) longe enough. we have served you seaven yeares, we thinke that is longe enough; Then said my m^r But we must not be our owne Judges; and said my m^r you must worke for me still, unless you run away. Then said william, we scorne to run away. Then said Philip, we will goe away, & leave you before your faces. Alsoe they did both speak to this purpose; If you will free us, we will plant your corne, & mende your fences, & if you will pay us as other men, but we will not worke with you upon the same termes, or conditions as before. (And this was upon m^{rs} lake her asking of them why they would offer at such a tyme to goe away mentioning some words how my masters business did lye my m^{rs} having alsoe said, let them alone; now they are speaking let them speak their owne

myndes) whereupon they answered as before. When my master had said come let us goe to prayer, Philip said you may go to prayer; we will speake more in the morning. And towards the end of ye discourse upon some occasion or question both answered & said it is soe, they appearing resolute to leave my master as they had said. In the morning when the constable was at my masters howse (about the arrest) motion was made by the constable, or one that was with him, tending to pswade my master to let them alone, saying surely they will goe on in your business. my master answered noe: unless they be secured." Sworn, June 15, 1661, before Daniel Denison.

Mrs. Margaret Lake testified to the same, and also that Philip said in the morning that if his master would give him as good a portion as any of his children, he would serve out his time. Sworn, June 15, 1661, before Daniell Denison.

Martha Trotter testified the same as Naomi Hull, and also that one of the Irishmen said one night that they would stay no longer unless their master showed them some other grounds. She heard Philip say to his mistress that now they had served seven years, they were under no authority of the country, etc. Sworn before Daniel Denison.

Ralph Dix, Richard Nicolls and Samuel Younglove, deposed that they went with the constable of Ipswich, when he served the warrant on the two Irishmen, and that one of the latter asked to see by what authority he kept them. Mr. Simonds said if the constable would stay he would see, and produce a writing, which, he said, was all he had to show for them. Sworn, June 23, 1661, before Daniel Denison.—*June 25, 1661.*

Verdict of the jury in the case of Samll. Symonds, gentleman v. Will. Downing and Phillip Welch, his two servants: That if Mr. Dell's covenant be legal, they found service due said Symonds until May 10, 1663; if not, they found for the defendants. Court adjudged the covenant legal, and ordered said Downing and Welch to serve their master until that date. Appealed to Court of assistants, but giving

not bonds to prosecute, upon agreement of all parties. Welch and Downing were to serve Mr. Symonds until the next session of the Court of Assistants, and the latter was to allow them liberty to attend that Court.—*June 25, 1661.*

Writ: Mr. Edmond Batter v. Edmond Bridges; debt; dated June 12, 1661; signed by Hillyard Veren, for the court; and served by John Wildes, constable of Topsfield, by attachment of about eight acres of land and two acres of wheat.—*June 25, 1661.*

Births and deaths in Topsfield in 1661, returned by John Redington, clerk:—

Sara, daughter of John and Sara Cummings, born Jan. 28.
Benjamin, son to Abraham and Margret Redington, born Apr. 19.

Ebenezer, son to Fraunces and Ane Bates, born Jan. 20.
A son to Isack and Mary Cumings, born and died, Nov. 2.
John, son to Thomas and Elen Dorman, died Jan. 16.
Calthorn, daughter to Jacob and Calthorn Towne, Feb. 25.

William Evans served in the grand jury and Isaack Estick, on the jury of trials at Ipswich court, Mar. 25, 1662.

John Wild was sworn constable for Topsfield.—*Mar. 25, 1662.*

Isaack Commings v. John Fuller. For taking out an execution and unjustly imprisoning him, in satisfaction of a judgment which said Commings had settled many years since. Verdict for defendant.

Writ, dated, Mar. 8, 1661, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and served by Robert Lord, marshal of Ipswich.
Jno. Fuller's bill of cost, 1li. 8s. 3d.

Katerin Wakeline testified that when she lived with John Fuller she saw Isaake Cummings, the younger, bring a parcel of corn upon a sled with oxen, and said Fuller received the corn and carried it into his chamber, tearing one sack and spilling corn as he carried it up the stairs. This was confessed by the defendant.

Issaack Coming, jr., testified that soon after John Fuller obtained a judgment against his father at Ipswich court upon his appeal from Mr. Symonds' judgment about dam-

age by hogs, his father sent him with corn in sacks upon a sled to Fuller's house and he delivered it to said Fuller, the latter's Irish servant being in the house. Fuller declared that he was fully satisfied, and deponant never heard any further demand made, until the marshal served the execution and put his father in prison, etc. Sworn in court.

Robert Lord, marshal, deposed that he heard Isacke Comins say that when he carried the corn to John Fuller, the snow was so deep that he went over the top of the fences with the sled. Sworn in court.

Samuell Aiers, aged about forty years, deposed that John Fuller served a warrant upon Isacke Comens for hire for a horse, and the latter said he would satisfy the debt and would not go to law. Comens had Indian corn with him lacking one peck, which deponent loaned him to pay the horse hire. This was about the time that Goodman Comins was at suit before Mr. Simons about hogs. Sworn in court.

Theophilus Wilson and John Porter deposed that when John Fuller and Isack Comins, jr., met at Wilson's house, etc. Sworn in court.—*Mar. 25, 1662.*

Daniell Clarke v. John How. For not returning a pair of oxen, which he had of the said Daniell for half a day to fetch straw at William Hunter's, about the latter end of wheat harvest. Verdict for defendant.

Writ, dated, Feb. 21, 1661, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and served by Robert Lord, marshal.

John How's bill of cost.

Evane Morris deposed concerning the pair of oxen called "stare & burnette," which his master Daniell Clarke lent to John How for half a day to carry straw from William Hunter's about the latter end of wheat harvest. "When John Howe asked my master for the oxen he tould John Houe he could not posibly goe over the swampe, for we had the swamp many times & could not finde any place to goe over with Cattell in the yoke and the answer of John Houe was that he had found a place to goe over as firme as the ground was we all three was at worke upon: which was ferme ground as is troden upon by men for it

was a great hill my master Replyed he wondered at it, for having ocaion to Carte there he had as alsoe myselfe made diligente serch and could finde no safe goinge ouer eny where John Houe replyed he had firme grounde to goe ouer where Thomas Andrese went with a lode or lodes of buttes, my master replyed I strange y^t it but if it be soe you shall haue the oxen, but I will not haue my Cattell to goe ouer ||y^t place|| with a laden carte for I know it is impossible by agremente betwixt John Houe and my master Clarke was to helpe John Howe that day he had the oxen in the afternoone aboute his strawe Caryinge for John Hoes worke in the forenone, & that the Cattell might be out of the yoke before night although John Houe sayd it would be done in twoe houters yet we left worke betymes in the forenone & went to dinner, and then John Houe and I droue the oxen out of my masters yearde into John Hoes worke and soe to Thomas Bakers, wher John Houe said he should haue more oxen but Thomas Baker was at plowe and would not breke ofe, and John Houe then sent me hombe with his arrende that when Thomas Baker left off at plowe then John Howe and Thomas Baker & Thomas dorman would goe them selues for the strawe, but when I had done the message my master bade me goe bake againe and tender your halfe dayes work & tell John Howe that I will not haue my Cattell in the yoke by night nether will I trust my Cattell with them, & unless you goe alonge withem that you may see ther usage and tell me and tell John Houe that I will not haue my Cattell goe ouer the swampe at all, which message I did to John Houe, and his answer to me was this then the more the meriere and soe we went Ephraim Dormon, John Houe & my selfe, and when we cum to the swampe I did refuse to go in to the swampe for John Houe had noe other way to goe and then it was quitte night but Thomas Baker & John House although I stopped the bullocks droue them in wher we stode in the swampe three howers or ther about hainge & geinge when we could not see ech other nor abeast unlese we did in a maner ether touch the beast or the partye Thomas Baker said that they should goe into the swampe, and when they ware in he

many tymes vowed that they should stayer in till the morn-
 inge but at last we all three unyoked the bullocks though
 contrary to masters order, and being very darke and the
 swampe thicke they could be sene no more," etc. Sworn
 in court.

William Hunters deposed that Daniell Clarke said, at
 deponent's house, that he bid Even Moris see that the
 cattle were unyoked at Mr. Baker's field. Sworn in court.

Thomas Backer deposed that after the case had been
 debated in court, Danill Clark told him that deponent had
 killed his ox, to which deponent replied, "You haue tould
 me so diuars times but how did I kill him?" Clark said,
 "With a pichforck you ron into him." Sworn in court.

William Parckins deposed. Sworn in court.

John Wild deposed that being lost on a very dark night
 in the swamp, he saw How, Baker and Morris with the
 load of straw thrown down to get their oxen out, and that
 it was about three hours after dark when they got them
 out, etc. Sworn in court.

Thomas Baker, aged about twenty-five years, deposed
 that soon after the last wheat harvest, John How and Efen
 Moris came to his house with a pair of oxen and asked
 deponent to loan them a pair to help with a load of straw.
 Deponent told them that they could have them if they could
 find them, but they could not and said they would get one
 of Goodman Dorman's sons to help load the straw. Said
 Moris went home again, and deponent told Howe that about
 half an hour before sunset, he would help him, and as he
 was driving, Moris said that he should not meddle with his
 oxen and bade deponent give him the stick, etc. Deponent
 asked Danell Clarke why he sent Moris back again when
 John How had sent him home, and he said because he could
 trust nobody with his oxen, etc. Sworn in court.—*Mar.*
25, 1662.

Mr. Samuuell Bradstreet, attorney to Mr. Symon Brad-
 street v. John Redington. Trespass. For possessing and
 holding a parcel of land in Topsfield. Verdict for plain-
 tiff, the land in controversy.

Writ, dated, Feb. 27, 1661, signed by Daniel Denison,
 for the court, and served by John Wiles, constable of
 Topsfeild.

Samuell Bradstreete's bill of charges, 2li. 11s.

Granted at a general meeting, 7: 12: 1639, to Mr. William Paine, 260 acres, in consideration of resigning up 200 acres, which lay on the south side of the river, to be laid out by Goodman Dorman and the lot layers; and in case there be overplus in the place formerly viewed, adjoining to Mr. Symonds, Mr. Whittingham, Mr. Brodstreet and "my owne w^{ch} I bought," he was to leave it between Mr. Brodstreet and himself and a way of six rod broad, to lead from Mr. Bradstreet's in common near Mr. Whittingham's farm. Copy from Ipswich town book, taken, Mar. 13, 1661, by Robert Lord, clerk.

Granted, 20: 11: 1647, to William Paine, the other part of the said farm lying nearer the town by Mr. Whittingham's, bounded by the land of Mr. Symon Bradstreet and Mr. Whittingham's toward the south and southwest, Mr. Samuell Symonds on the northwest, a point coming to the four mile brook, having the land of Mr. Bradstreet on the east and of Mr. Rogers on the northeast, the whole farm containing 400 acres. Copy from Ipswich town book, taken, Mar. 13, 1661, by Robert Lord clerk.

Granted to Mr. Bradstreet, a narrow strip of land between him and Mr. Whittingham, to reach up to the place where Mr. Paine's and Mr. Whittingham's join, or the nearest place of joining. Copy from Ipswich old town book, taken, Mar. 31, 1660, by Robert Lord, clerk.

John Wilds testified that John Reddington is the owner of the piece of land in controversy, and that he fenced it in and built upon it. Sworn in court.

Corporal Gage testified that when he laid out Mr. Payne's farm, which is now in possession of John Reddington, there was left out a long slip of land between it and Mr. Whittingham's farm at one end, butting on Mr. Bradstreet's farm about sixteen or eighteen rods broad, and so running up between Mr. Whittingham's farm and Mr. Payne's, from Mr. Bradstreet's farm to the dark swamp about half a mile in length. Sworn in court.

Ensign Howlet also deposed the same concerning this land in Topsfield. Sworn in court.

Thomas Dorman, sr., deposed that at a meeting at Goodman Lomkins, Mr. Bradstrat propounded for 200 acres of ground upon the hill before Mr. Parkinsis. The lot layers were asked how much common land there was and they said 300 acres, and there being so little, the town would not grant it. After this Mr. Bradstrat and Mr. Pain had some words, and the latter told Brodstrat that he had harmed him in that he could not come to the common. Mr. Brodstrat propounded for the slip of land, which was sixteen rods wide at one end and like a "share pind" at the other. The lot layers were called and told him that it would not help him to the common, yet with much importunancy, he had it granted to him. Sworn in court.—*Mar. 25, 1662.*

In the suit of Tuttle v. Shatswell, at Ipswich court Mar. 25, 1662, is an accounting containing the following item:—"paid to Franses bats for clabords and palles, 12s."

Zacheous Gould v. Tho. Putnam. Trespass. Withdrawn.—*Mar. 25, 1662.*

John Millangton acknowledged judgment to Daniell Clarke of Topsfield —*Mar. 25, 1662.*

John Dorman, dying intestate, this court granted administration to Mary Dorman, the widow, and the inventory was allowed.

Inventory of the estate of John Dorman, deceased, appraised, Feb. 12, 1661, by Francis Pebody and Samuell Brocklebanke: One booke and Aperell, one cloake, 2li. 5s. 6d.; one jackit and briches, 2li.; one wascoate, 7s.; one dublit and a paire of briches, 1li. 1s.; three paire of stockings, 9s.; Gloves, 6s.; one Inkhorne, 4d.; one neckcloath, 8d.; one hate, 10s.; another wascoate jackit and two paire of briches, 1li. 15s.; one paire of boots, spurs and 2 paire of shooes, 1li. 1s.; in sheets, shirt and other linen, 2li. 15s.; 4 cushins, 12 s.; 4 bands and three hankercheifers, 9s. 6d.; one bedstead and beding on it, 7li. 8s.; musket, sword and amunition, 1li. 15s.; puter and spounes, 12s. 6d.; one drinkeing [] and brase skellit, 4s.; in earthern and wooden dishes and trayes, 6s. 4d.; in chest and boxe, 9s.; in one Iron pot and pothookes, 12s.; wheat, 3li.; one meall trough and one sith, 3s.; in flax and hempe, 16s.;

in two swine, 2li. 13s.; in two cows, one stere calfe, 10li. 6s. 8d.; in Indian corne unthrashed, by estimation about therty bushell, 3li.; more in wheat unwinowed, about 4 bushell, 1li.; total, 46li. 1s.; in debts dew to the deceased from Thomas Baker, 4 bushels of wheat, 1li.; debt due from Peter Cowper as part of portion, 21li.; debt due by bond from Thomas Dorman, 50li.; debts to be paid out of the estate, 8li. 6s. 6d. "Be this knowne unto all men that Thomas Dorman of the towne of Topsfeild Hath and doth freely exprese himselfe that for a quiete and loueing Agreement betwene peter couper and him in difference about that estate that the said peter couper did expect that his daughter should haue bene estated in, he would Giue unto the said Mary dorman."—*Mar. 25, 1662.*

Zacheous Gould, having attached Mr. Jewett's executors, and no action being entered, costs allowed.—*Mar. 25, 1662.*

John Reddington v. Mr. Symond Bradstreete. Review of an action tried last Ipswich court, by Mr. Samuell Bradstreete, attorney to Mr. Symond Bradstreete, about a parcel of land lying in Topsfield. Verdict for defendant.

Writ, dated June 13, 1662, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and served by Tho. Chandler, constable of Andover, by attachment of house of defendant.

Samuel Bradstreet's bill of charges, 15s. 6d.

Copy taken out of Ipswich town book, Mar. 13, 1661, by Robert Lord, clerk: Granted at a general meeting, 7: 12: 1639, to Mr. William Paine, 260 acres in exchange for 200 acres which lay on the south side of the river, to be laid out by Goodman Dorman and the lot layers, and in case there be overplus in the place formerly viewed adjoining to Mr. Symonds, Mr. Whittingham, Mr. Bradstreet and "my owne which I bought," he was to leave it between Mr. Bradstreet and himself, and a way of six rods broad to lead from Mr. Bradstreet's into common near Mr. Whittingham's farm. Copied from the original on file among the records of Ipswich court, June 19, 1662, by Robert Lord, cleric.

Copies of grants to Mr. Bradstreet and Mr. Paine, taken from the files of the last Ipswich court, by Robert Lord, cleric.

Granted to Mr. William Paine about ten acres of land, joining to his marsh bought of Mr. Dillingham, having the land of John Catcham on the east and the marsh of Thomas Scott on the south. Also twenty-five acres beyond Muddy river, bounded by Muddy river on the south-east and by a grindell that runs into Muddy river, and so to the corner of the rails on the southwest, having the common on the northwest and the highway that leads to Rowley on the northeast. Also a farm at New Meddowes, one part of it lying beyond the farm granted to John Webster, having a swamp on the north, a brook on the northwest, the river on south, and part of the meadow lying on the south side of the river. Copy from the town book of Ipswich of the first part of Mr. William Paine's grants, which were not copied out for the last Ipswich court, made June 19, 1662, by Robert Lord, cleric.

Copy of judgment of Ipswich court in action of Mr. Simon Bradstreet v. John Redington, made by Robert Lord, cleric.

Copies of depositions of John Wilde, Ensign Howlett and Corp. Gage, taken from last Ipswich court files, by Robert Lord, cleric.

Frances Pabody, aged about fifty years, deposed that he helped to run the line between Mr. Whittingham's farm and Mr. William Payne's ground, now in possession of John Ridington, and they began at the marked tree at the northwest corner of the farm and ran to another marked tree, said to be the northeast corner of Mr. Whittingham's four hundred acres last laid out, about sixty poles, then turned on a square and measured about eighteen or twenty rods to a tree that was called Mr. Bradstreet's bound tree "this Eightene or twenti Rod that is mencioned John Ridington leaues out about sixtie Rod from the plac we mesured Roning to ward the darke swamp as will appeare as I reson by a draft in a paper which he showed me and saith he will giue in to Cort." Sworn, 24: 4: 1662, before Samuel Symonds.

Abraham Redington deposed that when he went up with Mr. Bradstreet to hire his farm, being together near the cowpen brook, Mr. Bradstreet told deponent that his

land went sixteen rods toward Mr. Whittinghams's farm, understanding the sixteen rods to be no part of his first grant. He also told deponent that all that meadow from cowpen brook, which lay on that side of the way toward the dark swampe, as now it is called, was Mr. William Paine's. Deponent also testified that there was a strip of land or a highway by Mr. Whittingham's line and Mr. Paine's almost to the dark swamp, and thence the highway leads to the common over some part of Mr. Whittingham's land. Also, a parcel of land was laid out to Mr. Bradstreet, joining to Mussye's meadow, which Mr. Bradstreet bought of Goodman Mussye, up to the corner of the farm by the cowpen brook, which was part of Mr. Paine's land which Mr. Bradstreet had in exchange for land Mr. Bradstreet parted with to Mr. Rogers. Also, Ensigne Howlett told deponent that Mr. Whittingham's line of his four hundred acres held the same line to the river. Sworn, June 19, 1662, before Samuel Symonds.

Thomas Perkins, sr. deposed that he was present at the running of the line. They began at the corner tree next the common and ran down to the dark swamp about four-score rods and so to the other corner tree about eight score, and so on upon the same line until they came to Mr. Bradstreet's bound tree about sixty rods more, which is eighteen or twenty rods wide of the line as it is drawn out in the paper by John Redington, etc. Sworn, 21: 4: 1662 before Samuel Symonds.

Robert Lord, cleric, certified, June 19, 1662, that he searched the town book of Ipswich at the desire of John Redington, and he found that Mr. Bradstreet's grant of a strip of land was written in order after the grant to Mr. William Payne, and in not the same hand, without date, and with other grants between.

Zacheus Gould deposed that several years since, the town of Ipswich desired to exchange some land with Mr. Brodstreat for Mr. Rogers, which Mr. Brodstreat agreed to, if Mr. Willyam Payne would let him have land of his which lay near, to which Mr. Payne agreed. Insine Howlett, Corporal Gaig, old John Perkins and deponent were appointed to lay it out on both sides. They laid out to

Mr. Brodstreet one parcel of Mr. Payne's land, which lay by a brook called the Mile brook, which is near Topsfield, on one side of it and a meadow called the hasacke meadow on the other side of it, and Mr. Brodstreat's land elsewhere. They laid out another parcel on the other side of the brook of Mr. Payne's land to Mr. Brodstret, which land joined the land of the latter. Further deponent testified that a little before the last Ipswich court, he was at John Redingtones house and the latter and Ensign Howlet were speaking of the coming suit and Howlet told Redington that he must be a witness against him for he could testify that Mr. Brodstreet had a strip of land granted to him thereabouts. Deponent asked Howlet if he could tell where it lay, and he replied that he could not, but he had heard some say that it went to an old tree in a place called "durty medo," and he did not know whether any of the land granted Mr. Brodstreat was within John Ridington's fence. Sworn, 21: 4: 1662, before Samuel Symonds.—*June 24, 1662.*

Bill of charges of Daniell Clerk, constable of Topsfield, to Mr. Roberd Pane, for hue and cries sent out for Usiltun's servant, for the servant of Dodge of Wenam, for the servant of Will. Evens of Salem and to Rouli and Andever.—*June 24, 1662.*

Isaack Comings served on the grand jury and Dan. Clarke on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Sept. 30, 1662.

Antony Carrall, aged 30 years, deposed in the case of Allen Perly v. Henry Bachelor.—*Nov. 25, 1662.*

William Pritchett v. Anthony Carroll. Trespass. For keeping possession of a house and land. Verdict for plaintiff.

Writ: William Pritchett v. Anthony Carroll; Trespass. for keeping possession of a house and land, which was sometimes Frances Urselton's and now the said Pritchett's by the sale of a mortgage from John Godfry to him; dated Mar. 23, 1662; signed by Robert Lord, for the court; and served by Robert Lord, marshal.

Whereas there was a mortgage of a house and land to Frances Urselton given by John (his mark) Godfry for the payment of fifty odd pounds to said Godfry at the end

of two years next March, the latter extends the time two years longer; dated Nov. 30, 1659. Wit: George Emery and Robert Lord.

Robert Lord deposed that the writings which he made were upon the consideration of a judgment that Frances Urselton had obtained, etc. Sworn in court.

Sale of mortgage by John (his mark) Godfry of Andover to William Pritchett of Ipswich, for 59li. 9s. 8d., of a house and land which was mortgaged to said Godfry by Francis Urselton, situate in Topsfield, and containing twenty-six acres, bounded by a ledge of rocks on the north, Mr. Baker's meadow on the west, a brook from Mr. Baker's meadow on the south and by a brook from the pond on the east; dated Nov. 16, 1660. Wit: Robert Lord and Mary Lord. Acknowledged, Nov. 16, 1660, before Daniel Denison.

Mortgage deed, dated Feb. 17, 1658, Frances (his mark) Urselton of Topsfield to John Godfrye of Andover, his dwelling house and all his land in Topsfield, which he bought of Daniell Clarke, containing about twenty-six acres, for 59li. 9s. 8d., to be paid in 1662, in wheat at 4s. 6d. per bushel and Indian corn at 2s. 8d., at the dwelling house of Phillip Fowler in Ipswich. Wit: Robert Lord and Phillip Fowler. Acknowledged, Feb. 17, 1658, before Daniel Denison, John Godfrey, promising to return this mortgage to Francis Urselton if he, the said Godfry, died within the four years.

John and Thomas Kimball deposed that they were present when Pritchett took possession of the house, and the latter left orders with the wife of Anthony Carrill that if her husband would remain there he must come and agree with said Pritchett or else provide himself elsewhere.—*Mar. 31, 1663.*

Thomas Dorman, jr., deposed that being at his uncle [George] Hadley's the last spring, etc. [in what is now Bradford]. Case of George Hadley v. Robert Haseltine.—*Mar. 31, 1665.*

Zacheous Curtice was sentenced, upon his presentment, to stand an hour at the court door with a paper in his hat written in great letters, "For setting up a false purpose of marriage att Topsfield."

Zaceus Curtis of Topsfield presented for setting up a paper at the meeting house on the Lord's Day, publishing an intention of marriage between James Waters and Elisabeth Redington, being contra to the intention of the parties and without their knowledge. The father of said Cortis owned it—*May 5, 1663.*

The constable of Ipswich, having by order of the selectmen given notice to Francis Bates that the town was not willing to accept him for a townsman, and said Bates refusing to remove, has complained to this court for relief.—*May 5, 1663.*

Mr. Edmond Batter v. Wm. Prichett. Trespass. For occupying his land within the bounds of Topsfeild. Verdict for plaintiff, eight pounds, to be paid in what the ground produced.—*June 30, 1663.*

Edward Towne served on the grand jury and Dan. Hovey on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Sept. 29, 1663.

William Pritchett v. John Godfry. For not saving him from damage by quiet possession and enjoyment of a mortgage of house and land he bought of him. Verdict for plaintiff.

Writ, dated Sept. 22, 1663, signed by Robert Lord, for the court, and served by Thomas Kimball, deputy for Robert Lord, marshal.

Mortgage deed, dated Feb. 17, 1658, Francis (his mark) Ursellton of Topsfield. for 59li. 4s. 8d., sold to John Godfry of Andover, his dwelling house and land in Topsfield which he bought of Daniell Clarke, containing twenty-six acres, bounded by a ledge of rocks on the north, Mr. Baker's meadow on the west, a brook coming out of Mr. Baker's meadow on the south and by a brook coming out of the pond on the east; mortgage to be paid in four years in Indian corn and wheat, at the dwelling house of Philip Fowler in Ipswich. Wit: Robert Lord and Philip (his mark) Fowler. Acknowledged, Feb. 17, 1658, before Daniell Denison. Copy made by Robert Lord, cleric.

Copies of John Godfry's mortgage to Francis Ursellton, dated Nov. 30, 1659, adding two more year's time for payment of same, and said Godfry's assignment of mortgage to William Pritchett of Ipswich, dated Nov. 16, 1660, made by Robert Lord, cleric.

Copy of Salem court record of 30: 4: 1663 of the action of Mr. Edmond Batter v. William Pritchett, made by Hillyard Veren, cleric.

John How, aged about twenty-three years, deposed that being sent for at the house of Will. Pritchett, he was told that he was wanted in a matter of a writing that Godfry had made, which was in the hands of Mr. Batter or Nathaniel Putnam, lengthening the mortgage two years. Said Pritchett told Godfry that he was afraid there would be trouble about it, whereupon the latter took Pritchett by the hand and told him, before William Danfort, deponent and the rest of the family, that he would bear him harmless from any man who would molest him. Deponent heard Godfry promise that he would come down last March, with two or three neighbors, and give said Pritchett possession. Sworn in court.

John Pritchett, aged about eighteen years, deposed that his father asked John Godfry why he was not as good as his word, and he replied that he had been persuaded to the contrary by Anthony Carill. Sworn in court.

Philip Fowler deposed that he acted for John Godfry, and told William Pritchett that the mortgage was lengthened two years, when the writing was drawn at Goodman Lord's, and he would have to take the mortgage as it was. Then they agreed. Sworn in court.

On the reverse of foregoing paper. "To Heere Loueing and Kind Brother Robert Crosse Att the Towne of Ipswich in new England Deliver this I pray."

Anthony Carrall deposed that being at William Pritchett's house at work, the latter asked him how much he paid for rent of that land and he told him twelve pounds for three years. Pritchett said he was with Mr. Batter and offered him six pounds down in wheat or pork, and Goodman Pritchett believed that would be better for him. Sworn in court.—*Sept. 29, 1663.*

Mr. Anthony Crosby v. Abraham Redington. Trespass. Nonsuited. By consent there was a new entry which was withdrawn.—*Sept. 29, 1663.*

Births, marriages and deaths of Topsfield, returned by John Redington, clerk of the writs:—

Presilla, wife of John Wiles, died Apr. 16, 1663.

Ephraim, son of Robert and Mary Smith, was born Oct 27, 1663.

Samuel, son of Daniell and Mary Clark, was born Dec. 5, 1663.

Timothie, son of Thomas and Judeth Dorman, was born Dec. 12, 1663.

Phebe, wife of Zacheas Gould, died Sept. 20, 1663.

John Wiles and Sarai Averil were married Nov. 23, 1663.

William Evans served on the jury of trials at Ipswich, Mar. 29, 1664.

Mr. John Paine v. Mr. William Perkins. Debt, Withdrawn.—*Mar. 29, 1664.*

John Gould v. John Tod. Trespass. Upon a replevin. Verdict for plaintiff.

Writ of replevin for a brindle steer of John Gould's distrained by John Tod, dated Feb. 23, 1663, signed by John Redington, for the court, and served by constable of Topsfeild.

Richard Oliver deposed that he was with John Tod when he distrained Zacheas Gould and his son John Gould for Rowly rates and at the same time he distrained a steer of said Gould's the latter promising to keep it for Tod, who was to pay for wintering it. Sworn in court.

John Pickard and Ezekiell Northend testified that "the dwelling house in which goodman Gould liveth is within the bounds of the towne of Rowley severall scores of Rods." Sworn in court.

Danell Clerke testified that John Gould bought a brindle bull calf of him for himself, etc. Sworn in court.

John Robinson deposed that the steer belonged to John Gould when distrained. Sworn in court.

William Evenes deposed.—*Mar. 29, 1664.*

John Gould v. Daniell Black and Faith, his wife. For slanderous words. Withdrawn.—*Mar. 29, 1664.*

Isaack Estow [Esty] was sworn constable of Topsfeild.—*Mar. 29, 1664.*

(*To be continued.*)

THE FUNERAL TRAIN OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN

REMINISCENCES BY WM. H. H. GOULD.*

On the evening of April 14, 1865, the date President Lincoln was shot, I had finished my round trip and was tired and went to bed early. The morning of the 15th of April I walked over to the Calvert Street Railway Station, Baltimore, arriving there about 7 A. M. When I reached the rear entrance to the station I noticed that all traffic on the railroad was at a standstill. I asked the gateman, Simon Goldstein, why no trains were running. He said:

"Mine Gott, don' you hear de news?"

"No," I said. "What is the news?"

"Lincoln was kilt last night," said Goldstein, "and Stanton is kilt, and everybody is kilt, and you done it, git out of here."

I did get out and began to observe what was going on. The station was crowded with soldiers; they had taken charge of it. People were allowed to go into the station but no one was allowed to leave. About noon an order was received from Washington to release the people, who numbered several hundred. In the afternoon trains began to run again.

After Goldstein had accused me of being guilty of the death of Lincoln and others, I began to study about the matter and thought I had better go home. To learn of the murder of President Lincoln very much depressed me, and to be accused of it made me feel much worse. I went home and lay down on the bed. I told my wife if any one called for me to tell them I was out. After I had rested for about half an hour I began to feel better and went out

*Mr. Gould was born in Topsfield, June 25, 1836, the son of Zaccheus and Anne (Hood) Gould, and died March 31, 1917 at Washington D. C. In 1862 he obtained a position as a brakeman on the Northern Central Railway, now a part of the Pennsylvania system, where he was employed for over forty years. Three years later he was conductor on a passenger train running between Baltimore and Harrisburg.

on the street. Noticing many buildings and flags draped in black, I went home and hung out my flag, draped in black. By this time I felt normal and had a mind to go and see Goldstein and tell him what I thought, but reconsidered.

Conductors in those days took their regular turn, and it just so happened that on the morning of April 21, 1865, I was next out. About 12:30 p. m. I was notified by the station master that I was to act as conductor on the special train that was to carry President Lincoln's body from Baltimore to Harrisburg. At the time I gave no special importance to this run, but since then I have been exceedingly gratified that I had it. The car in which President Lincoln's body was carried was built by a Mr. Lamson at Alexandria, Va. It was built on the lines of our present-day parlor cars, but much less elaborate. The outside of the car was painted dark brown, and the inside was varnished, showing the grain of the wood. There were no fixed seats in the car, but there were several easy chairs.

The train was made up of an engine that burned coal, one baggage car, seven first-class passenger cars, and in the rear was the funeral car. The train was equipped with hand brakes. In the baggage car we carried the remains of William Wallace Lincoln, the 12-year-old son of the President, who died in February, 1862, and had been buried in a cemetery at Georgetown.

In the train crew was the engineer, two firemen, one baggage man, two brakemen, one conductor and myself. So far as I know, I am the only living member of that crew, and fifty years time has erased all their names from my memory. Capt. George W. Hambright had general supervision of the pilot train and funeral train. The engine and cars of the train were decked in the habiliments of mourning.

The coffin in which President Lincoln's body lay rested on three trestles securely fastened to the floor of the car. Over these was crepe. Straps were fastened to the trestles and buckled around the coffin to hold it secure. The coffin was very large and appeared to be about seven feet long and fully three feet wide. It was covered with black

cloth, and, besides the four silver handles on either side, there was considerable silver decoration in the form of wreaths. On the lid of the coffin was an engraved silver plate, which read:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
16th President of the United States.

Born Feb. 12, 1809.

Died April 15, 1865.

I was in the funeral car at various times in my line of duty. A part of the time the face lid was removed from the coffin, and I had several opportunities of seeing the face of the martyred President. His face was calm and peaceful. He looked as if he were asleep in pleasant dreams. The body was dressed in black, with white shirt and black tie. I was informed that the suit he had on was the suit he wore at his first inauguration.

None of the train crew was in uniform—in fact, in those days no uniform was worn by passenger train crews. I wore a black suit of clothes and black hat. On the front of my hat I wore a plate marked "Conductor."

There were about 75 people on the train beside the train crew. There were no women on the train. During the trip the men moved back and forth through the train. They were a distinguished looking group of men, but sad and solemn. Practically all of their talk was of the greatness and goodness of Lincoln, and his untimely death. There were many men on the train who were soldiers, but none was in uniform.

Each member of the train crew, and all of those who were entitled to ride on the train, wore a special badge. This badge was their ticket of transportation. Of course, I was very careful to see that every person riding on the train was entitled to do so.

Ten minutes before the special train pulled out of Baltimore, a pilot engine and one passenger car, in charge of Capt. George B. Kaufman and brakeman, with a crew started ahead of the special train for Harrisburg. Just at

3 o'clock on the afternoon of April 21, 1865, I gave the engineer the signal to start for Harrisburg. The engine gave a shrill whistle and the train slowly passed the depot. There was an immense crowd around the station at Baltimore to see the train leave, but they were very quiet.

As we left Baltimore the weather was cloudy and warm. Our first stop out of Baltimore was Parkton, Md., for water. The next stop was at York, Pa., again for water. These two stops were the only stops made between Baltimore and Harrisburg.

When the train stopped at York, a delegation of six ladies were allowed to enter the funeral car and lay a large wreath on the coffin. At every cross road there were crowds of people, and as the funeral train passed them the men took off their hats, and I noticed many, both men and women, who shed tears as the train passed. It was the most solemn trip I ever took on a train. Everybody on the train was solemn and everybody the train passed was solemn.

Just at 8 o'clock the train pulled into Harrisburg. The sky was cloudy, and there was a fine drizzle of rain. It seemed to me that nature was weeping because of Lincoln's death.

After pulling into the station I remained in charge of the train until the President's body was taken from the funeral car to be taken to the State Capitol in Harrisburg; then I was relieved by the yard crew.

VITAL STATISTICS OF TOPSFIELD, MASS.

FOR THE YEAR 1916.

BIRTHS.

1915

- Aug. 8. Elizabeth Hope, dau. of Ralph W. and Elsa (Mertsch) Barker. (Born in Boston.)
Sept. 2. Muriel Thompson, dau. of Laura M. Thompson. (Born in Swampscott.)

1916.

- Jan. 24. Concetta, dau. of Nicolino and Lucia (Decotis) Landolfi.
Jan. 25. Robert William, son of George Alfred and Bertha Elizabeth (Titus) Stanwood.
Feb. 20. Elmer B. Thomas, 2nd, son of Elmer B. and Hannah G. (Blaney) Thomas. (Born in Boston.)
Feb. 27. Luigi Paglia, son of Alphonse and Grazia (Paglia) Roberto.
Mar. 27. Helen Elspeth Hay, dau. of Charles Hay and Annie (McCowan) Reid.
April 23. Marion Frances, dau. of Edwin Harley and Phyllis Marie (——) Moore.
April 29.^m Raymond Fuller, son of Fred Ensley and Hattie Ellen (Fuller) Watson.
May 31. Virginia, dau. of Perley Edwin and Louise Madeline (Reardon) Wright.
July 9. Gertrude Towne, dau. of Thomas Edwin and Mary Violet (Towne) Elliott.
Aug. 1. Luke, son of Antonio and Philomena Santa (Nicola) Scoglio.
Sept. 5. Pasquelena, dau. of Joseph and Jogatta (Peaglea) Landolfi.
Dec. 5. Thomas Edmund, son of Edmund and Rose (Ross) Nadeau.

MARRIAGES.

1916.

- Jan. 5. Nicolino Landolfi (Topsfield), son of Pasquale and Concetta (Fernicola) Landolfi
Lucia Decotis (Topsfield), dau. of Michelangelo and Angela (Roberto) Decotis. (Married in Salem.)
Feb. 27. Edward E. Small (Brookline), son of Edward L. and Jana (Bradley) Small.
Anna C. Buck (Boxford), dau. of Robert D. and Edith (Phillips) Buck.

- Apr. 23. John Fallon (Topsfield), son of Michael and Mary (Wallace) Fallon.
Mary Heally (Topsfield), dau. of Matthew and Ann (Breheny) Heally.
(Married in Boston.)
- May. 16. Frederick Burgess (Ipswich), son of Thomas and Sarah A. (Kay) Burgess.
Mary Celeste Doucette (Topsfield), dau. of Joseph C. and Mary Emmy (Le Blanc) Doucette. (Married in Danvers.)
- May 28. Herbert Laskey (Everett), son of Frederick A. and Margaret A. (Andrews) Laskey.
Helen Marie Vigneau (Somerville), dau. of Alfred J. and Margaret (Irving) Vigneau.
- June 17. Franklin Campbell Roberts (No. Andover), son of William and Helen (Campbell) Roberts.
Beatrice Marguerite Dunleigh (Topsfield), dau. of Henry P. and Emma Alice (Walther) Dunleigh.
- July 16. Chester Cameron Andrews (Topsfield), son of William Skelly and Edith May (McCormack) Andrews.
Vinnie May Philbrick (Lynn), dau. of Fred Edgar and Evie Jane (Spaulding) Philbrick.
- Aug. 13. Carmine Cotoia (Topsfield), son of Antonio and Lisa (Calitre) Cotoia.
Saveria Mosco, (Waltham), dau. of Antonio and Conceta (Frobizie) Mosco. (Married in Boston.)
- Sept. 5. Percy C. MacGregor (Hamilton), son of John Q. and Mary A. (Purdy) MacGregor.
Edna Pearl Nutter (Beverly), dau. of Myron and Rosabell (Lowell) Nutter.
- Sept. 7. Perley Jordan (Topsfield), son of Charles F. and Anna (Balch) Jordan.
Marion Bessie Carter (Topsfield), dau. of John W. and Nellie (Spencer) Carter. (Married in Danvers.)
- Sept. 30. Frank Webster Batcheller (Somerville), son of Alden and Harriet (Devoil) Batcheller.
Jane Morrill Pitman (Somerville), dau. of Richard and Rachel (Saunders) Pitman.
- Oct. 3. H. Gilbert Jordan (Topsfield), son of Charles Fred and Anna Bradstreet (Balch) Jordan.
Jane Frances Killam (Boxford), dau. of Frank Webster and Lizzie (Graves) Killam. (Married in Boxford.)
- Nov. 18. Benjamin Balch Lake (Topsfield), son of William Goodrich and Margaretta E. (Walker) Lake.
Helen Maude Brown dau. of Thomas Edward and Carrie Delia (Senderson) Brown. (Married in Boxford.)
- Nov. 30. Lewis Richard Little, son of John Henry and Martha Elizabeth (—) Little.
Lila Ethel Mosher, dau. John Andrew and Fannie Elizabeth (Malcolm) Mosher.

DEATHS.

- 1916.
- Jan. 21. Helen St. Claire. dau. of Josiah Foster and Josephine T. (Chadwick) Smith, aged 21 yrs., 1 mo., 12 dys. (Died in Salem.)
- Feb. 5. Mary Elizabeth, widow of Joseph E. Andrews and dau. of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Gibson) Chapman, aged 76 yrs., 2 mos., 13 dys.
- Feb. 17. Edwin H. son of Frank M. and Annie F. (Eames) Moore, aged 26 yrs., 6 mos. (Died in Beverly.)
- Mar. 13. Mary Erickson, wife of Gustaf Erickson and dau. of Timothy and Mary (——) McSweeney.
- May 5. Caroline S., widow of Henry G. Gilman and dau. of William and Betsy (Benton) Wallace, aged 70 yrs., 4 mos., 5 dys.
- May 9. Theresa, dau. of Guila and Julia (Teria) DeMario, aged 1 yr., 7 mos.
- June 8. Mary Osgood, dau. of John and Mary Osgood (Deland) Hodges, aged 76 yrs., 10 mos., 19 dys.
- June 10. Mary E. wife of Hazen R. Wildes and dau. of James and Hannah (Carroll) Deickhoff, aged 45 yrs., 9 mos., 14 dys.
- July 23. Alice L. wife of Forrest W. Rust and dau. of Josiah and Pheobe (Towle) Perkins, aged 38 yrs., 8 mos., 15 dys.
- Sept. 1. Raymond Fuller, son of Fred E. and Hattie E. (Fuller) Watson, aged 4 mos., 3 dys.
- Sept. 12. Ruth Evelyn, dau. of Fred M. and Cora (Kneeland) Williams, aged 9 yrs., 6 mos., 28 dys. (Died in Canton.)
- Oct. 20. Andreas, son of Gustav and Amelia (——) Halberg, aged 56 yrs., 6 mos., 1 dy.
- Oct. 20. Charles, son of Henry and Lucy (Gilbert) Perkins, aged 86 yrs., 11 mos., 20 dys.
- Oct. 29. Fredericka, widow of Joachim Stark and dau. of Henry and Sophia (Shultz) Stark, aged 74 yrs., 10 mos., 20 dys.
- Nov. 1. Susan C., dau. of Benjamin and Susan (Cheever) Leach, aged 97 yrs., 8 mos., 26 dys.
- Nov. 3. Lucy A. dau. of Ebeneza and Abigail (Perkins) Peabody, aged 77 yrs., 8 mos. (Died in Peabody.)
- Nov. 18. Lizzie Lawrence, wife of George L. Gould and dau. of MacLaurin Fuber and Mary Elizabeth (Moore) Cooke, aged 60 yrs., 6 mos., 15 dys. (Died in Peabody.)
- Nov. 24. George Prince, son of George W. and Anna D. B. Dow, aged 79 yrs., 2 mos., 8 dys.
- Nov. 25. Rosa dau. of Max and Rosa (Beck) Cratz, aged 1 yr., 2 mos.

Deaths in other places, Interment in Topsfield.

- 1916.
- Feb. 25. Laura E. Dame, died in Lakeport, N. H., aged 56 yrs., 5 mos., 25 dys.
- Mar. 24. William W. Bennett, died in Lynn, Mass., aged 66 yrs., 7 mos., 16 dys.
- Mar. 29. Nettie B. Peabody, died in Westfield, Mass., aged 52 yrs., 10 mos., 26 dys.
- May 27. Mrs. Rhoda B. Conant, died in Springfield, Mass., aged 79 yrs.
- Aug. 10. Mary Ann Herrick, died in Arlington, Mass., aged 82 yrs., 10 mos., 7 dys.
- Oct. 17. Marcella J. Willey, died in Haverhill, Mass., aged 70 yrs., 1 mo., 16 dys.
- Nov. 3. Amanda Ward, died in Lynnfield, Mass., aged 61 yrs., 1 mo., 1 dy.
- Dec. 3. Charles Whipple Ingalls, died in Boxford, Mass., aged 69 yrs., 8 mos., 10 dys.
- Dec. 6. Roger Tappan, died in Natick, Mass., aged 68 yrs., 9 dys.
- Dec. 10. Martha Jane Clark, died in Lynn, Mass., aged 83 yrs., 1 mo., 6 dys.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN 1916.

1916.

- January 5. Cardinal O'Connell buys land on Park Street for a proposed Roman Catholic Church.
- Feb. 15. Topsfield Rifle Club organized.
- Mar. 18. Topsfield Sons of Veterans, Camp 119, organized.
- May 14. Reuben King's camp on Bare Hill Road destroyed by fire and 15 acres of sprout land burned over.
- Sept. 18-19. Annual cattle show of the Essex Agricultural Society.
- Sept. William H. Bennett's bungalow on Washington St., newly built, destroyed by fire.
- Nov. 19. Manley A. White's house, Pine Street, destroyed by fire.
- Dec. 8. Ladies' Society of the Congregational Church observed 75th anniversary.
- Dec. 24. Community Christmas tree on the Common and singing of carols.

 BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED DURING THE YEAR 1916.

- William H. Bennett, Washington street, bungalow, destroyed by fire after completion.
- Charles V. Jackman, Pemberton Ave., dwelling house.
- Essex Agricultural Society, Turnpike, 2 sheds for live stock.
- Connolly Bros., the Dame bungalow removed from Bare Hill Road to Haverhill Road, near Hood's Pond, and remodelled.
- C. Harry Shoemaker, Turnpike, carriage house moved and remodelled into a two-tenement house.
- Andy F. Jackman, Main St., coal sheds and storage sheds.
- T. Jesse Fuller, Main St., garage moved from Washington St. to Main St.
- Alfonso Roberto, Main St., garage.

